Koviloor Acadamy

THE "A.L."

No. 45.
(Nineteenth Edition.)

BRIGHT STORY READERS.

Grade IV.

IMS0731

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS.

Prepared by THE EDITOR.

Printed in Great Britain.

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விவேகானந்த புத்தகசாலை
இந்து மதாபிமான சங்கம்
காரைக்குடி.

The "A.L."
Bright Story Reader, No. 45.

P.L. Lakshmanan

ராமகிருஷ்ண வாசகசாலை
ஆரு. ஆ. வீதி.
காரைக்குடி.

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS.

F. 15.

ஓம்.
ராமகிருஷ்ண
விவேகானந்தர் சங்கம்
காரைக்குடி.

நன்கொடையாளர் .....P.L. Lakshmanan.....
ஊர்..... .....Karaikudi.....
புத்தக எண்...F.10..... பதிவு எண்.....F.15....

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"They leaped out of their ships and swam to shore."—*Page* 45.

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GULLIVER'S TRAVELS into LILLIPUT and BROBDINGNAG. By DEAN SWIFT.

Prepared for School
Use by The Editor.

E. J. ARNOLD & SON, Limited,
Educational Publishers,
LEEDS, GLASGOW & BELFAST.

E·J·A
S.&L.D

B.S.R., No. 45.

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NOTE.

For the meaning of words which are not found in the Notes at the end of the book, the pupil should refer to the **"A.L." Scholar's English Dictionary,** 100 pp., which contains nearly 14,000 words.

The **Modern Dictionary,** 800 pp., containing 49,180 words, 2,057 phrases, 832 foreign words and phrases, 791 abbreviations, including a 24-page supplement of new and additional words and phrases, and an 8-page appendix of classical and mythological names, will be found a valuable school-aid both in reading this book, and for general reading.

The **Shorter Modern Dictionary,** 396 pp., including a 16-page supplement of new and additional words and phrases, contains over 27,500 entries, and is specially designed to meet the wants of young readers.

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GULLIVER'S TRAVELS INTO LILLIPUT.

CHAPTER I.

GULLIVER IS SHIPWRECKED AND LANDS ON AN UNKNOWN SHORE.

MY father had a small estate in Nottinghamshire; I was the third of five sons. He sent me to Emmanuel College,[1] in Cambridge, at fourteen years old, where I resided three years, and worked very hard at my studies.

But, the cost of keeping me there being too great for a small fortune, I was bound apprentice to Mr. James Bates, a noted surgeon in London, with whom I lived four years. My father now and then sending me small sums of money, I laid them out in learning navigation, and other things useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it would be, some time or other, my fortune to do.

When I left Mr. Bates, I went down to my father; where, by the assistance of him and my uncle John, and some other relations, I got forty pounds, and a promise of thirty pounds a year to maintain me at Leyden.*[2] There I studied physic two years and seven months, knowing it would be useful to me in long voyages.

Soon after my return from Leyden, I was recommended by my good master, Mr. Bates, to be surgeon on board the *Swallow*, Captain Abraham Pannell, commander; with whom I continued three years and a half, making a voyage or two in the Levant,[3] and some other parts.

* Pronounce *Lī-d'n* *ī* as in "pine."

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When I came back, I resolved to settle in London, and Mr. Bates recommended me to several patients. But, my good master dying in two years after, and I having few friends, my business began to fail. Having, therefore, consulted with my wife and some of my friends, I made up my mind to go again to sea. I was surgeon in two ships, one after the other, and made several voyages, during six years, to the East and West Indies, by which I got some addition to my fortune.

I then accepted a very favourable offer from Captain William Pritchard, master of the *Antelope*, who was making a voyage to the South Sea.[1] We set sail from Bristol, May 4, 1699, and our voyage at first was very prosperous. In our passage to the East Indies, however, we were driven by a violent storm to the north-west of Van Diemen's Land.[2] Twelve of our crew died from very great labour and ill food, and the rest were in a very weak condition.

On the 5th of November, which was the beginning of the summer in those parts, the weather being very hazy, the seamen spied a rock within half a cable's length[3] from the ship; but the wind was so strong that we were driven directly upon it, and immediately split. Six of the crew, of whom I was one, having let down the boat into the sea, we managed to get clear of the ship and the rock, but in about half an hour the boat was upset by a sudden wind from the north.

What became of my companions in the boat (as well as those who escaped on the rock, or were left in the vessel), I cannot tell, but conclude they were all lost.

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For my part I swam as fortune directed me, and was pushed forward by wind and tide. I often let my legs drop, but could feel no bottom, but when I was almost gone,[1] and able to struggle no longer, I found myself within my depth. By this time the storm was much abated, and I was able to reach the shore.

I went forward nearly half a mile, but could not discover any signs of houses or inhabitants; so, as I was extremely tired, and the heat of the weather was so great, I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, and I slept sounder than ever I remember to have done in my life. When I awakened, it was just daylight.

CHAPTER II.

HE IS MADE A PRISONER.

I tried to rise, but was quite unable to stir; for, as I happened to lie on my back, I found my arms and legs were strongly fastened on each side to the ground, and my hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner. I likewise felt several slender cords across my body, from my arm-pits to my thighs. I could only look upwards; the sun began to grow hot, and the light hurt my eyes. I heard a confused noise about me, but, in the posture I lay, could see nothing except the sky.

In a little time, I felt something alive moving on my left leg. Advancing gently forward over my breast, it came almost up to my chin; when, bending my eyes downward as much as I could, I saw it was a human creature not six inches high, with bow and arrow in

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his hands, and a quiver at his back. In the meantime I felt at least forty more of the same kind (as I thought), following the first. I was in the utmost astonishment, and roared so loud that they all ran back in fright, and some of them, as I was afterwards told, were hurt by the falls they got by leaping from my sides upon the ground. However, they soon returned, and one of them ventured so far as to get a full sight of my face, and cried out in a shrill but distinct voice, *Hekinah degul!*[1] The others repeated the same words several times, but I knew not then what they meant.

I lay all this while, as the reader may believe, in great uneasiness. At length, struggling to get loose, I had the fortune to break the string, and wrench out the pegs that fastened my left arm to the ground, for, by lifting it up to my face, I discovered the methods they had taken to bind me. At the same time, with a violent pull which gave me very great pain, I loosened the strings a little that tied down my hair on the left side, so that I was just able to turn my head about two inches.

But the creatures ran off a second time, before I could seize them; whereupon there was a great shout in a very shrill accent, and after it had ceased I heard some of them cry aloud, *Tolgo phonac.* Then, in an instant, I felt about a hundred arrows discharged at me, which pricked my hands and face like needles.

When this shower of arrows was over, I began groaning with grief and pain. Then, seeing me striving again to get loose, they discharged another volley larger than the first, and some of them attempted with spears to

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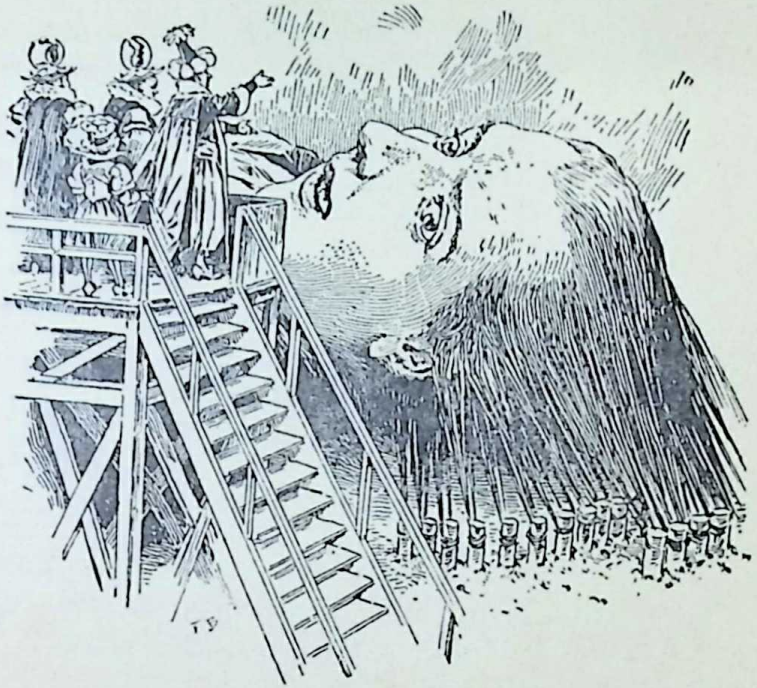
stick me in the sides; but by good luck I had on a buff jerkin,[1] which they could not pierce. I thought it the wisest plan to lie still, and made up my mind to continue so till night, when, my left hand being already loose, I could easily free myself.



"From this platform one of them . . . made a long speech."—*Page* 10.

But fortune disposed otherwise of me. When the people saw that I was quiet, they discharged no more arrows; but, by the noise I heard, I knew their numbers increased. About four yards from me, over against my

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left ear, I heard a knocking for above an hour, like that of people at work. Turning my head that way, as well as the pegs and strings would permit me, I saw a stage erected, about a foot and a half from the ground, capable of holding four of the inhabitants, with steps to mount it. From this platform one of them, who seemed to be a person of importance, made a long speech, whereof I understood not a syllable.

CHAPTER III.

HE IS CARRIED UP THE COUNTRY.

I should have mentioned that, before the principal person began his speech, he cried out three times, *Langro dehul san* (these words and the former were afterwards repeated and explained to me). Immediately, about fifty of the inhabitants came and cut the string that fastened the right side of my head, which gave me the liberty of turning it to the left and of observing the person and gesture of him that was to speak. He appeared to be of middle age, and taller than any of the other three who attended him. A page, who seemed to be somewhat longer than my middle finger, held up his train; the others stood one on each side to support him. He acted every part of an orator, and I thought that at times he threatened me, and at other times made promises of pity and kindness.

I answered in a few words, but in the most submissive manner, lifting up my left hand and both my eyes to the sun, as if calling him for a witness. Being

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almost famished with hunger, I showed, by putting my finger frequently to my mouth, that I wanted food.

The *hurgo* (for so they called a great lord, as I afterwards learned), understood me very well. He came down from the stage and commanded that several ladders should be placed to my sides, on which above a hundred of the inhabitants mounted. They walked towards my mouth, laden with baskets full of meat, which had been provided and sent hither by the king's orders, upon the first news he received of me. I observed there was the flesh of several animals, but could not tell what they were by the taste.

There were shoulders, legs, and loins shaped like those of mutton, and very well dressed,[1] but smaller than the wings of a lark. I ate them by two or three at a mouthful, and took three loaves at a time, about the bigness of musket bullets. They supplied me as fast as they could, showing great wonder and astonishment at my bulk and appetite.

I then made another sign that I wanted drink. They had found by my eating that a small quantity would not suffice me; and, being a most ingenious people, they slung up, with great skill, one of their largest hogsheads, then rolled it towards my hand, and beat out the top. I drank it off at a draught, which I might well do, for it did not hold half a pint, and tasted like a light wine of Burgundy,[2] but much more delicious. They brought me a second hogshead, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more; but they had none to give me.

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When I had performed these wonders, they shouted for joy, and danced upon my breast. I confess I was often tempted, while they were passing backwards and forwards on my body, to seize forty or fifty of the first that came in my reach, and dash them against the ground. But the remembrance of what I had felt, which probably might not be the worst they could do, soon drove out these thoughts.

After some time, when they saw that I made no more demands for meat, there appeared before me a person of high rank, from his imperial majesty. His excellency, having mounted on the lower part of my right leg, advanced forwards up to my face, with about a dozen of his retinue. He spoke to me for about ten minutes without any signs of anger, but with a kind of determined resolution. He often pointed forwards, which, as I afterwards found, was towards the capital city, about half a mile distant, whither it was agreed by his majesty that I must be conveyed.

I answered in a few words, but to no purpose, and made a sign with my hand that was loose, putting it to the other (but over his excellency's head for fear of hurting him or his train), and then to my own head and body, to signify that I desired my liberty.

It appeared that he understood me well enough, for he shook his head and held his hands in a posture to show that I must be carried as a prisoner. However, he made other signs, to let me understand that I should have meat and drink enough, and very good treatment. Whereupon I once more thought of attempting to break my bonds.

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But again, when I felt the smart of their arrows upon my face and hands, which were all in blisters, and many of the darts still sticking in them, and observing also that the number of my enemies increased, I made signs to let them know that they might do with me what they pleased. Upon this, the *hurgo* and his train withdrew, with much civility and cheerful countenances.

Soon after I heard a general shout, and I felt great numbers of people on my left side slackening the cords, to such a degree, that I was able to turn upon my right side. But, before this, they had daubed my face and both my hands with a sort of ointment, very pleasant to the smell, which, in a few minutes, removed all the smart of their arrows.

These things, added to the refreshment I had received by their victuals and drink, which were very nourishing, made me feel sleepy, and I slept about eight hours, as I was afterwards told.

It seems, that upon the first moment I was discovered sleeping on the ground, after my landing, the emperor had early notice of it by an express,[1] and determined in council, that I should be tied in the manner I have related (which was done in the night while I slept), that plenty of meat and drink should be sent me, and a machine[2] prepared to carry me to the capital city.

This resolution, perhaps, may appear very bold and dangerous, and I am certain would not be imitated by any prince in Europe on the like occasion. However, in my opinion, it was extremely prudent as well as generous.

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CHAPTER IV.

GULLIVER REACHES THE KING'S CAPITAL.

These people are most excellent scholars, and have arrived at a great perfection in making machines, and the emperor, who is a great patron[1] of learning, both assists and encourages them in this matter. This prince has several machines, fixed on wheels, for the carriage of trees and other great weights. He often builds his largest men-of-war (whereof some are nine feet long) in the woods where the timber grows, and has them carried on these machines three or four hundred yards to the sea.

Five hundred carpenters and engineers were immediately set at work to prepare the greatest machine they had. It was a frame of wood, seven feet long and four wide, raised three inches from the ground, and moving upon twenty-two wheels. The shout I heard was upon the arrival of this carriage, which, it seems, set out in four hours after my landing. It was brought opposite to me as I lay.

But the chief difficulty was to raise and place me in this vehicle. Eighty poles, each one foot high, were erected for this purpose, and very strong cords, of the thickness of packthread,[2] were fastened by hooks to many bandages, which the workmen had girt[3] round my neck, my hands, my body, and my legs. Nine hundred of the strongest men were employed to draw up these cords, by many pulleys fastened on the poles; and thus, in less than three hours I was raised and slung into the vehicle, and there tied fast.

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All this I was told afterwards; for, while the operation was performing, I lay in a deep sleep, caused by the wine which I had drunk. Fifteen hundred of the emperor's largest horses, each about four inches and a half high, were employed to drag me towards the capital, which, as I said, was half a mile distant.

We made a long march the remaining part of the day, and rested at night, with five hundred guards on each side of me, half with torches, and half with bows and arrows, ready to shoot me if I should offer to stir. The next morning, at sunrise, we continued our march, and arrived about noon, within two hundred yards of the city gates. The emperor, and all his court, came out to meet us; but his great officers would by no means let his majesty run any danger by mounting on my body.

At the place where the carriage stopped there stood an ancient temple, the largest in the whole kingdom, which was empty, for it was no longer used. In this building it was determined I should lodge. The great gate, fronting to the north, was about four feet high, and almost two feet wide; through this I could easily creep.

On each side of the gate was a small window, not above six inches from the ground; into that on the left side the king's smith carried four score and eleven chains, like those that hang to a lady's watch in Europe, and almost as large, which were locked to my left leg with six-and-thirty padlocks.

Opposite this temple, on the other side of the great highway, at twenty feet distance, there was a turret at

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least five feet high. Here the emperor ascended, with the chief lords of his court, to have an opportunity of viewing me, I was told, for I could not see them. It was reckoned that above a hundred thousand inhabitants came out of the town upon the same errand; and, in spite of my guards, I believe there could not be fewer than ten thousand, at separate times, who mounted my body, by the help of ladders. But a proclamation was soon issued, to forbid it, upon pain of death.

CHAPTER V.

THE EMPEROR AND HIS COURT.

When the workmen found it was impossible for me to break loose, they cut all the strings that bound me; whereupon I rose up, with as sad a feeling as ever I had in my life. But the noise and astonishment of the people, at seeing me rise and walk, are not to be expressed. The chains that held my left leg were about two yards long, and gave me not only the liberty of walking backwards and forwards in a semicircle, but, being fixed within four inches of the gate, allowed me to creep in, and lie at my full length in the temple.

When I found myself on my feet, I looked about me, and must confess I never beheld a more pleasing sight. The country around appeared like a continued garden, and the enclosed fields, which were generally forty feet square, looked like so many beds of flowers. These fields were intermingled with woods, and the tallest trees, as I could judge, appeared to be seven feet

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high. I viewed the town on my left hand, which looked like the painted scene of a city in a theatre.

I had been for some hours extremely tired, however, so I crept into my house and shut the door after me. But it was of no use to try to get rid of so much company. I had to come out again, and to get a little change by stepping backwards and forwards as far as my chains allowed.

The emperor descended from the tower, and advanced on horseback towards me, which was like to have cost him dear, for the beast, though very well trained, was wholly unused to such a sight, which appeared as if a mountain moved before him, and reared up on his hind feet. But that prince, who is an excellent horseman, kept his seat, till his attendants ran in, and held the bridle, while his majesty had time to dismount.

When he alighted, he looked at me all round with great admiration, but kept beyond the length of my chain. He ordered his cooks° and butlers, who were already prepared, to give me victuals and drink, which they pushed forward in a sort of little cart upon wheels, till I could reach them. I took these vehicles and soon emptied them all. Twenty of them were filled with meat, and ten with liquor; each of the former afforded me two or three good mouthfuls; and I emptied the liquor, which was contained in ten earthen bottles, into one larger vessel, and drank it off at a draught.

The empress and young royal princes and princesses, attended by many ladies, sat at some distance in their sedan chairs;[1] but when the accident happened to the

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emperor's horse, they alighted, and came near his person, which I am now going to describe.

He is taller, by almost the breadth of my nail, than any of his court; which alone is enough to strike an awe into the beholders. His features are strong and masculine, with an Austrian lip,[1] and an arched nose; his complexion olive, his appearance erect, his body and limbs well proportioned, all his movements graceful, yet majestic. He was then past his prime,[2] and had reigned about seven years in great happiness.

His dress was very plain and simple, and the fashion of it between the Asiatic and the European; but he had on his head a light helmet of gold, adorned with jewels, and a plume on the crest.

He held his sword drawn in his hand to defend himself, if I should happen to break loose; it was almost three inches long; the hilt and scabbard were gold enriched with diamonds. His voice was shrill, but very clear, and I could hear it distinctly when I stood up.

The ladies and courtiers were all most magnificently clad; so that the spot they stood upon seemed to resemble a petticoat spread on the ground, embroidered with figures of gold and silver. His imperial majesty spoke often to me, and I returned answers; but neither of us could understand a word. There were several of his priests and lawyers present (as I guessed by their dress), who were commanded to speak to me. I replied to them in as many languages as I had the least smattering of, which were High[3] and Low Dutch,[4] Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, and Lingua Franca;[5] but all to no purpose.

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CHAPTER VI.

GULLIVER IS TAUGHT THE LANGUAGE AND GAINS FAVOUR.

After about two hours the court retired, and I was left with a strong guard, to prevent the rudeness, and probably the spite, of the rabble, who were very impatient to crowd about me, as near as they durst. Some of them had the impudence to shoot their arrows at me, as I sat on the ground by the door of my house, whereof one very narrowly missed my left eye. But the colonel ordered six of the ringleaders to be seized, and thought no punishment so proper as to deliver them bound into my hands; which some of his soldiers accordingly did, pushing them forwards with the butt-ends of their pikes[1] into my reach.

I took them all into my right hand, put five of them into my coat-pocket, and, as to the sixth, I pretended as if I would eat him alive. The poor man squalled terribly, and the colonel and his officers were in much pain, especially when they saw me take out my penknife. But I soon put them out of fear; for, looking mildly, and immediately cutting the strings he was bound with, I set him gently on the ground, and away he ran.

I treated the rest in the same manner, taking them, one by one, out of my pocket; and I saw both the soldiers and people were highly delighted at this mark of my mercy, which was told, very much to my advantage, at court.

Towards night, I got with some difficulty, into my house, where I lay on the ground, and continued to do

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so for about a fortnight; during which time the emperor gave orders to have a bed prepared for me. Six hundred beds, of the common size, were brought in carriages, and placed in my house; a hundred and fifty of these beds, sewn together, made up the breadth and length. These were four double, which, however, scarcely kept me from the hardness of the floor, that was of smooth stone. By the same calculation they provided me with sheets, blankets, and coverlets, tolerable enough[1] for one who had been so long used to hardships.

As the news of my arrival spread through the kingdom, it brought large numbers of rich, idle, and curious people to see me; so that the villages were almost emptied. Great neglect of tillage and household affairs must have ensued, if his imperial majesty had not provided, by several proclamations, and orders of state, against this inconvenience. He directed that those who had already seen me should return home, and not come within fifty yards of my house without leave.

In the meantime, the emperor held frequent councils, to debate what course should be taken with me; and I was afterwards assured by a particular friend, a person of great quality[2] who was as much in the secret as any, that the court was under many difficulties concerning me.

They feared my breaking loose; that my food would be very expensive, and might cause a famine. Sometimes they determined to starve me, or at least to shoot me in the face and hands with poisoned arrows, which would soon kill me; but, again, they considered that the stench of so large a carcase might produce a

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plague, which would probably spread through the whole kingdom.

In the midst of these consultations, several of the officers of the army went to the door of the great council-chamber, and two of them, being admitted, gave an account of my behaviour to the six criminals above-mentioned. This made so favourable an impression on his majesty and the whole board in my behalf, that an imperial commission was issued,[1] obliging all the villages nine hundred yards round the city, to deliver in, every morning, six beeves, forty sheep, and other victuals for my support, together with a suitable quantity of bread, and wine, and other liquors. His majesty gave orders for the due payment of these; for this prince lived chiefly upon his own property, seldom, except upon great occasions, raising any taxes upon his subjects, who were bound to attend him in his wars at their own expense.

Six hundred persons were appointed to be my servants. They were allowed board-wages,[2] and tents were built for them, very conveniently on each side of my door.

It was likewise ordered that three hundred tailors should make me a suit of clothes after the fashion of the country; that six of his majesty's greatest scholars should be employed to instruct me in their language; and lastly, that the emperor's horses, and those of the nobility and troops of guards, should be frequently exercised in my sight, to accustom them to me.

All these orders were carried out, and in about three weeks I made a great progress in learning their language. During this time the emperor frequently

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honoured me with his visits, and was pleased to assist my masters in teaching me.

We began already to converse together in some sort, and the first words I learned were to express my desire that he would be pleased to give me my liberty, which I every day repeated on my knees. His answer, as I understood it, was, that this must be a work of time, not to be thought of without the advice of his council, and that first I must swear a peace with him and his kingdom. He promised, however, that I should be used with all kindness, and advised me to gain, by my patience and discreet behaviour, the good opinion of himself and his subjects.

He desired I would not take it ill, if he gave orders to certain proper officers to search me, for probably I might carry about me several weapons, which must needs be dangerous things, if they answered the bulk of so huge a person.

I said his majesty should be satisfied, for I was ready to strip myself, and turn out my pockets before him. This I delivered partly in words and partly by signs.

He replied that, by the laws of the kingdom, I must be searched by two of his officers; that he knew this could not be done without my consent and assistance; and he had so good an opinion of me, as to trust their persons in my hands; that whatever they took from me should be returned when I left the country, or paid for at the rate which I would set upon them.

I took up the two officers in my hands, put them first into my coat-pocket, and then into every other

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pocket about me, except my two fobs[1] and another secret pocket, which I had no mind should be searched, wherein I had some little necessaries that were of no consequence to any but myself. In one of my fobs there was a silver watch, and in the other a small quantity of gold in a purse. These gentlemen, having pen, ink, and paper about them, made an exact list of everything they saw; and when they had done, desired I would set them down, that they might deliver it to the emperor. This list I afterwards translated into English, and it is word for word as follows.

CHAPTER VII.

A LIST IS MADE OF ALL THAT IS FOUND UPON HIM.

'*Imprimis*,*[2] In the right coat-pocket of the great Man-mountain (for so I interpret the word *quinbus flestrin*), after the strictest search, we found only one great piece of coarse cloth,[3] large enough to be a foot-cloth for your majesty's chief room of state.

'In the left pocket we saw a huge silver chest,[4] with a cover of the same metal, which we, the searchers, were not able to lift. We desired it should be opened, and one of us, stepping into it, found himself up to the mid-leg in a sort of dust, some part whereof, flying up to our faces, set us both a-sneezing several times together.

'In his right waistcoat pocket we found a very large bundle of white, thin substances,[5] folded one over another, about the bigness of three men, tied with a strong

* Pronounce *im-pri'-mis*—*i* as in "it"; *i* as in "mine."

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cable, and marked with black figures; which we humbly conceive to be writings, every letter almost half as large as the palm of our hands.

'In the left there was a sort of machine, from the back of which were extended twenty long poles, resembling the railings in front of your majesty's palace; wherewith we think the Man-mountain combs his head, for we did not always trouble him with questions, because we found it a great difficulty to make him understand us.

'In the large pocket on the right side we saw a hollow pillar of iron,[1] about the length of a man, fastened to a strong piece of timber larger than the pillar, and upon one side of the pillar were huge pieces of iron sticking out, cut into strange figures, which we know not what to make of.

'In the left pocket another one of the same kind. In the smaller pocket on the right side were several round, flat pieces of white and red metal,[2] of different bulk; some of the white, which seemed to be silver, were so large and heavy that my comrade and I could hardly lift them.

'In the left pocket were two black pillars irregularly shaped; we could not, without difficulty, reach the top of them as we stood at the bottom of his pocket. One of them was covered, and seemed all of a piece; but at the upper end of the other there appeared a white, round substance, about twice the bigness of our heads. Within each of these was enclosed a huge plate of steel, which, by our orders, we obliged him to show us, because we feared they might be dangerous.

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'He took them out of their cases, and told us, that in his own country his practice was to shave his beard with one of these, and cut his meat with the other. There were two pockets which we could not enter; these he called his fobs.

'Out of the right fob hung a great silver chain, with a wonderful kind of machine at the bottom. We asked him to draw out whatever was at the end of that chain, and he did so. It appeared to be a globe, half silver, and half of something transparent; for, on the transparent side, we saw certain figures, and thought we would touch them, till we found our fingers stopped by that clear substance.

'He put his machine to our ears, and it made a noise, like that of a water-mill. We think it is either some unknown animal, or the god that he worships; but we are more inclined to the latter opinion, because he assured us (if we understood him aright, for he expressed himself very imperfectly), that he seldom did anything without consulting it. He called it his oracle,[1] and said it pointed out the time for every action of his life.

'From the left fob he took out a net almost large enough for a fisherman, but so contrived as to open and shut like a purse, and which served him for this use; we found therein several massive pieces of yellow metal, which, if they be real gold, must be of immense value.

'Having thus, in obedience to your majesty's commands, diligently searched all his pockets, we observed a girdle about his waist, made of the hide of some large

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animal, from which, on the left side, hung a sword, of the length of five men; and on the right, a bag or pouch, divided into two cells, each cell capable of holding three of your majesty's subjects.

'In one of these cells were several globes, or balls,[1] of a very heavy metal, about the bigness of our heads, which required a strong hand to lift them; the other cell contained a heap of certain black grains,[2] but of no great bulk or weight, for we could hold about fifty of them in the palms of our hands.

'This is an exact list of what we found about the body of the Man-mountain, who used us with great civility, and due respect to your majesty's commission. Signed and sealed on the fourth day of the eighty-ninth moon of your majesty's happy reign.

'CLEFRIN FRELOCK;
'MARSI FRELOCK.'

When the list was read over to the emperor, he ordered me, although in a very gentle manner, to deliver up the various articles. He first called for my sword, which I gave him, scabbard and all. In the meantime he ordered three thousand of his choicest troops (who then attended him), to surround me at a distance, with their bows and arrows just ready to discharge; but I did not observe it, for my eyes were wholly fixed upon his majesty.

He then desired me to draw my sword, which, although it had got some rust from the sea-water, was in most parts exceeding bright. I did so, and immediately all the troops gave a shout between terror

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and surprise; for the sun shone clear, and the reflection dazzled their eyes, as I waved the sword to and fro in my hand.

His majesty was less frightened than I could expect; he ordered me to return it into the scabbard, and cast it on the ground as gently as I could, about six feet from the end of my chain.

The next thing he demanded was one of my pocket pistols. I drew it out, and at his desire, as well as I could, expressed to him the use of it. Charging it only with powder, which, by the closeness of my pouch, happened to escape wetting in the sea, I first cautioned the emperor not to be afraid, and then I let it off in the air.

The astonishment here was much greater than at the sight of the sword. Hundreds fell down as if they had been struck dead; and even the emperor, although he stood his ground, could not recover himself for some time.

I delivered up both my pistols, in the same manner as I had done my sword, and then my pouch of powder and bullets, begging him that the former might be kept from fire, for it would kindle with the smallest spark, and blow up his imperial palace into the air.

I likewise delivered up my watch, which the emperor was very curious to see, and commanded two of his tallest yeomen of the guard[1] to bear it on a pole upon their shoulders, as draymen in England do a barrel of ale.

He was amazed at the continual noise it made, and at the motion of the minute hand, which he could easily see, for their sight is much more acute than ours.

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I then gave up my silver and copper money, my purse, with nine large pieces of gold, and some smaller ones; my knife and razor, my comb and silver snuff-box, my handkerchief and note book. My sword, pistols, and pouch were taken in carriages to his majesty's stores, but the rest of my goods were returned to me.

I had, as I before observed, one private pocket, which escaped their search, wherein there was a pair of spectacles (which I sometimes use for the weakness of my eyes), a pocket telescope, and some other little things, which, being of no consequence to the emperor, I did not think myself bound in honour to show, and I feared they might be lost or spoiled if I let them go out of my possession.

CHAPTER VIII.

HE SEES SOME CURIOUS THINGS, AND ENTERTAINS THE EMPEROR.

The natives came by degrees to be less afraid of any danger from me. I would sometimes lie down, and let five or six of them dance on my hand; and at last the boys and girls would venture to come and play at hide and seek in my hair. I had now made a good progress in understanding and speaking the language.

The emperor had a mind one day to entertain me with several of the country shows, wherein they exceeded all nations I have known for cleverness. I was most pleased with the rope-dancers, who performed upon a slender white thread, extended about two feet, and twelve inches from the ground.

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This diversion is only practised by those persons who are candidates for great employments and high favour at court. They are trained in this art from their youth, and are not always of noble birth or good education.

When a great office is vacant, either by death or disgrace (which often happens), five or six of those candidates petition the emperor to entertain his majesty and the court with a dance on a rope; and whoever jumps the highest, without falling, is appointed to the office.

Very often the chief ministers themselves are commanded to show their skill, to prove to the emperor that they have not lost their cleverness. Flimnap, the treasurer, is required to dance on the tight rope, at least an inch higher than any other lord in the whole empire. I have seen him do the somersault several times together upon a trencher[1] fixed upon a rope which is no thicker than a common packthread in England.

These diversions are often attended with fatal accidents, whereof a great number are on record. I myself have seen two or three candidates break a limb. But the danger is much greater, when the ministers are commanded to show their dexterity; for, by trying to excel themselves and their fellows, they strain so far, that there is hardly one of them who has not received a fall, and some of them two or three. I was assured that, a year or two before my arrival, Flimnap would certainly have broken his neck, if one of the king's cushions, that accidentally lay on the ground, had not weakened the force of his fall.

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There is likewise another diversion, which is only shown before the emperor and empress, and the first minister, upon particular occasions. The emperor lays on the table three fine silken threads of six inches long; one is blue, the other red, and the third green. These threads are there as prizes for those persons whom the emperor wishes to distinguish by a peculiar mark of his favour.

The ceremony is performed in his majesty's great Throne Room, where the candidates are to undergo a trial of skill, very different from the former, and such as I have not observed the least resemblance to in any other country of the new or old world.

The emperor holds a stick in his hands, both ends level with the floor, while the candidates, advancing one by one, sometimes leap over the stick, sometimes creep under it, backward and forward, several times, according as the stick is raised or lowered. Sometimes the emperor holds one end of the stick, and his first minister the other. Sometimes the minister has it entirely to himself.

Whoever performs his part with the most agility, and holds out the longest in leaping and creeping, is rewarded with the blue-coloured silk; the red is given to the next, and the green to the third. These they all wear tied twice around about the waist. You see few great persons about this court who are not adorned with one of these girdles.

The horses of the army, and those of the royal stables, having been daily led before me, were no longer shy, but would come up to my very feet without starting. The

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riders would leap them over my hand, as I held it on the ground; and one of the emperor's huntsmen, upon a large horse, took my foot, shoe, and all, which was indeed a great feat. I had the good fortune to please the emperor one day in a very extraordinary manner.

I begged him to order several sticks of two feet high, and the thickness of an ordinary cane, to be brought to me. His majesty therefore commanded the Master of his Woods to give directions accordingly, and the next morning six woodmen arrived with as many carriages, drawn by eight horses to each. I took nine of these sticks, and fixed them firmly in the ground in a figure, two feet and a half square. I then took four other sticks and tied them parallel at each corner, about two feet from the ground; then I fastened my handkerchief to the nine sticks that stood erect, and stretched it on all sides, till it was tight as the top of a drum, and the four parallel sticks, rising about five inches higher than the handkerchief, served as ledges on each side.

When I had finished my work, I desired the emperor to let a troop of the best horse, twenty-four in number, come and exercise upon this plain. His majesty approved, and I took them up, one by one, in my hands, ready mounted and armed, with the necessary officers to exercise them.

As soon as they got into order, they divided into two parties, performed mock fights, discharged blunt arrows, drew their swords, fled and pursued, attacked and retired, and, in short, showed the best military discipline I ever beheld. The parallel sticks kept them and their

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horses from falling over the edge; and the emperor was so much delighted, that he ordered this entertainment to be repeated several days, and once was pleased to be lifted up, and give the word of command. With great difficulty, he persuaded the empress to let me hold her within two yards of the stage, when she was able to take a full view of the whole performance.

It was my good fortune, that no ill accident happened in these entertainments; only once, a fiery horse, that belonged to one of the captains, pawing with his hoof, struck a hole in my handkerchief, and his foot slipping, he overthrew his rider and himself. But I immediately relieved them both, and, covering the hole with one hand, I set down the troop with the other, in the same manner as I took them up. The horse that fell was strained in the left shoulder, but the rider got no hurt. I repaired my handkerchief as well as I could, but I would not trust to the strength of it any more in such dangerous enterprises.

CHAPTER IX.

HE IS SET FREE ON CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

About two or three days before I was set at liberty, as I was amusing the court with feats of this kind, there arrived a messenger to inform his majesty that some of his subjects, riding near the place where I was taken up, had seen a great black substance lying on the ground. It was very oddly shaped, extending its edges round, as wide as his majesty's bed-chamber, and rising up in the middle as high as two men. It was no living

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creature, as they at first thought, for it lay on the grass without motion, and some of them had walked round it several times. By mounting upon each other's shoulders, they had got to the top, which was flat and even, and, stamping upon it, they found that it was hollow within; that they humbly conceived it might be something

"By mounting upon each other's shoulders they got to the top."

belonging to the Man-mountain, and if his majesty pleased, they would undertake to bring it with only five horses.

I knew at once what they meant, and was glad at heart to receive this news. It seems that, upon my first reaching the shore after our shipwreck, I was in such confusion, that before I came to the place where I went to sleep, my hat, which I had fastened with a string to

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my head while I was rowing, and which had stuck on all the time I was swimming, fell off after I came to land. The string had perhaps broken by some accident which I had never noticed, and I thought my hat had been lost at sea.

I begged his imperial majesty to give orders that it might be brought to me as soon as possible, and the next day the waggoners arrived with it, but not in a very good condition. They had bored two holes in the brim, within an inch and a half of the edge, and fastened two hooks in the holes; these hooks were tied by a long cord to the harness, and thus my hat was dragged along for above half an English mile; but, the ground in that country being extremely smooth and level, it received less damage than I expected.

Two days after this adventure, the emperor, having ordered that part of his army which resides in and about his metropolis to be in readiness, took a fancy of amusing himself in a singular manner. He desired that I would stand like a colossus[1] with my legs as far asunder as I conveniently could.

He then commanded his general (who was an old experienced leader, and a great patron of mine) to draw up the troops in close order,[2] and march them under me; the foot by twenty-four abreast, and the horse by sixteen, with drums beating, colours flying, and pikes advanced.[3] This body consisted of three thousand foot and a thousand horse.

I had sent so many requests for my liberty that his majesty at length mentioned the matter, first in the

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Cabinet,[1] and then in full council,[2] where it was opposed by none, except Skyresh Bolgolam, who was, without any reason, my mortal[3] enemy.

But it was carried against him by the whole board, and confirmed by the emperor. That minister was *galbet*, or Admiral of the Realm; he was very much in his master's confidence, and a person well versed in affairs, but of a peevish and sour temper. However, he was at length persuaded to agree; but the conditions upon which I should be set free, and to which I must swear, were to be drawn up by himself.

These conditions were brought to me in writing by Skyresh Bolgolam in person, who was attended by two under-secretaries and several persons of distinction. After they were read, I had to swear to perform them, first, in the manner of my own country, and afterwards in the method prescribed by their laws, which was, to hold my right foot in my left hand, and to place the middle finger of my right hand on the crown of my head, and my thumb on the tip of my right ear.

But because the reader may be curious to have some idea of the style and manner of expression peculiar to that people, as well as to know the conditions upon which I recovered my liberty, I have made a translation of the whole document, word for word, as near as I was able, which I here offer to the public.

'*Golbasto Momarem Evlame Gurdilo Shefin Mully Ully Gue, most mighty Emperor of Lilliput, delight and terror of the universe, whose dominions extend five thousand blustrugs* [*about twelve miles in circumference*] *to the ends*

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of the globe; monarch of all monarchs, taller than the sons of men; whose feet press down to the centre, and whose head strikes against the sun; at whose nod the princes of the earth shake their knees; pleasant as the spring, comfortable as the summer, fruitful as autumn, dreadful as winter; his most sublime Majesty proposes to the Man-mountain, lately arrived at our celestial dominions, the following articles,[1] *which, by a solemn oath, he shall be obliged to perform:—*

'1st. *The Man-mountain shall not depart from our dominions without our licence*[2] *under our great seal.*

'2nd. *He shall not presume to come into our metropolis without our express order; at which time the inhabitants shall have two hours' warning to keep within doors.*

'3rd. *The said Man-mountain shall confine his walks to our principal highroads, and not offer to walk or lie down in a meadow or field of corn.*

'4th. *As he walks on the said roads, he shall take the utmost care not to trample upon the bodies of any of our loving subjects, their horses or carriages, nor take any of our subjects into his hands without their own consent.*

'5th. *If a message requires to be sent very urgently, the Man-mountain shall be obliged to carry, in his pocket, the messenger and his horse a six days' journey once in every moon, and return the said messenger back (if so required) safe to our imperial presence.*

'6th. *He shall be our ally against our enemies in the island of Blefuscu, and do his utmost to destroy their fleet, which is now preparing to invade us.*

'7th. *That the said Man-mountain shall, at his time of leisure, aid and assist our workmen, in helping to raise certain*

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great stones, towards covering the wall of the principal park, and other royal buildings.

'Lastly. *That, upon his solemn oath to observe the above articles, the said Man-mountain shall have a daily allowance of meat and drink sufficient for the support of* 1,728 *of our subjects, with free access to our royal person, and other marks of our favour.*

'*Given at our palace at Belfaborac, the twelfth day of the ninety-first moon of our reign.*'

I took the oath and signed the document with great cheerfulness and content, although some of the conditions, which proceeded wholly from the malice of Skyresh Bolgolam, the high admiral, were not so honourable as I could have wished. My chains were immediately unlocked, and I was at full liberty. The emperor himself, in person, did me the honour to be by at the whole ceremony.

I made my thanks by bowing myself at his majesty's feet; but he commanded me to rise; and, after many kind words, which, to avoid the censure of vanity I shall not repeat, he added that he hoped I should prove a useful servant, and well deserve all the favours he had already conferred upon me, or might do in the future.

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CHAPTER X.

THE CAPITAL CITY OF LILLIPUT.

The first request I made, after I had obtained my liberty, was, that I might have leave to see Mildendo, the metropolis, which the emperor readily allowed me, but with a special charge to do no hurt either to the inhabitants or their houses.

The people had notice given them, by proclamation, of my coming to visit the town. The wall, which went round it, is two feet and a half high, and at least eleven inches broad, so that a coach and horses may be driven very safely on the top of it; and it is strengthened at the sides with strong towers at ten feet distance.

I stepped over the great western gate, and passed very gently and sidelong through the two principal streets only, in my short waistcoat, for fear of damaging the roofs and eaves of the houses with the skirt of my coat.

I walked with great care, to avoid treading on any stragglers, who might remain in the streets; although the orders were very strict, that all people should keep in their houses at their own peril. The garret windows and tops of houses were so crowded with spectators, that I thought in all my travels I had not seen a more populous place.

The city is an exact square, each side of the wall being five hundred feet long. The two great streets, which run across and divide it into four quarters, are five feet wide. The lanes and alleys, which I could not enter, but only viewed them as I passed, are from twelve

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to eighteen inches wide. The town is capable of holding five hundred thousand souls; the houses are from three to five storeys; the shops and markets well provided.

The emperor's palace is in the centre of the city, where the two great streets meet. It is enclosed by a wall of two feet high, and twenty feet distant from the building. I had his majesty's permission to step over the wall; and, the space being so wide between that and the palace, I could easily view it on every side.

The outward court is a square of forty feet, and includes two other courts. In the inmost are the royal apartments, which I was very desirous to see, but found it extremely difficult; for the great gates, from one square into another, were but eighteen inches wide. Now the buildings of the outer court were at least five feet high, and it was impossible for me to stride over them without great damage to the pile, though the walls were strongly built of hewn stone, and four inches thick.

The emperor had a great desire that I should see the magnificence of his palace; but this I was not able to do till three days after. I spent the days in cutting down with my knife some of the largest trees in the royal park, which was about a hundred yards distant from the city. Of these trees I made two stools, each about three feet high, and strong enough to bear my weight.

The people having received notice a second time, I went again through the city to the palace with my two stools in my hands. When I came to the side of the outer court, I stood upon one stool and took the other

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in my hand; this I lifted over the roof, and gently set it down on the space between the first and second court, which was eight feet wide.

I then stepped over the building very easily from one stool to the other, and drew up the first after me with a hooked stick. By this means I got into the inmost court, and, lying down upon my side, I put my face to the windows of the middle storeys, which were left open on purpose, and saw the most splendid apartments that can be imagined.

There I saw the empress and the young princess, with their chief attendants about them. Her imperial majesty was pleased to smile very graciously upon me, and gave me out of the window her hand to kiss.

One morning, about a fortnight after I had obtained my liberty, Reldresal, chief secretary (as they style him) for private affairs, came to my house attended only by one servant. He ordered his coach to wait at a distance, and desired I would see him, which I readily consented to.

I offered to lie down, that he might the more conveniently reach my ear, but he chose rather to let me hold him in my hand during our conversation.

He began with compliments on my liberty, and said that he might pretend to some hand in it; but he added that if it had not been for the present situation of things at court, perhaps I might not have obtained it so soon.

"For," said he, "as flourishing a condition as we may appear to be in to foreigners, we labour under two

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mighty evils—violent quarrellings at home, and the danger of an invasion by a most powerful enemy from abroad.

"As to the first, you are to understand, that for about seventy moons past there have been two struggling parties in this empire, under the names of *Tramecksan* and *Slamecksan*, from the high and low heels of their shoes, by which they distinguish themselves.

"It is said, indeed, that the high heels are most in favour of our ancient constitution,[1] but, however this may be, his majesty has determined to have only us of low heels in the administration of the government, and all offices in the gift of the crown, as you cannot but observe; and particularly that his majesty's imperial heels are lower at least by a *drurr* than any of his court (*drurr* is a measure about the fourteenth part of an inch).

"The ill-feeling between these two parties runs so high that they will neither eat nor drink nor talk with each other. We compute the *Tramecksan*, or high heels, to exceed us in number, but the power is wholly on our side. We are afraid that his imperial highness, the heir to the crown, has some leaning towards the high heels; at least, we can plainly discover that one of his heels is higher than the other, which gives him a hobble in his gait.

"Now, in the midst of these troubles at home, we are threatened with an invasion from the island of Blefuscu, which is the other great empire of the universe, almost as large and powerful as this of his majesty.

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"Though we have heard you affirm that there are other kingdoms and states in the world inhabited by human creatures as large as yourself, our wise men are in much doubt, and they think that you dropped from the moon, or one of the stars, for it is certain that a hundred mortals of your bulk would, in a short time, destroy all the fruits and cattle of his majesty's dominions. Besides, our histories of six thousand moons make no mention of any other regions than the two great empires of Lilliput and Blefuscu.

"These two mighty nations have, as I was going to tell you, been engaged in a most stubborn war for six-and-thirty moons past. It began thus:—It is allowed on all hands, that in early times the way of breaking eggs, before we eat them, was upon the larger end; but this present majesty's grandfather, while he was a boy, going to eat an egg, and breaking it in the usual way, happened to cut one of his fingers; whereupon the emperor, his father, commanded all his subjects, upon great penalties, to break the smaller end of the eggs.

"The people were so vexed with this law, that, our histories tell us, there have been six rebellions raised on that account; wherein one emperor lost his life,[1] and another his crown.[2] These civil disorders were constantly encouraged by the monarchs of Blefuscu, and when they were put down, the exiles always fled for refuge to that empire.

"The exact words of the law are these—'That all true believers break their eggs at the convenient end.' But which is the convenient end seems, in my humble

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opinion, to be left to every man's conscience, or at least in the power of the chief magistrate, that is, the king, to decide.

"Now, the Big-endian exiles have found so much credit in the emperor of Blefuscu's court, and so much private assistance and encouragement from their party here at home, that a terrible war has been carried on between the two empires for six-and-thirty moons, with various success. During this time we have lost forty large ships, and a much greater number of smaller vessels, together with thirty thousand of our best seamen and soldiers; and the damage received by the enemy is reckoned to be somewhat greater than ours.

"However, they have now got together a numerous fleet, and are just preparing to make a descent upon us; and his imperial majesty, placing great confidence in your valour and strength, has commanded me to lay this account of his affairs before you."

I desired the secretary to present my humble duty to the emperor, and to let him know that I thought it would not become me, who was a foreigner, to interfere with parties; but I was ready, at the risk of my life, to defend his person and state against all invaders.

CHAPTER XI.

A HIGH TITLE OF HONOUR IS CONFERRED ON GULLIVER.

The empire of Blefuscu is an island situated to the north-east of Lilliput, from which it is parted only by a channel of eight hundred yards wide. I had not yet seen it, and, upon this notice of an intended invasion, I avoided appearing on that side of the coast, for fear of

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being noticed by some of the enemy's ships, who had received no news about me; all intercourse between the two empires having been strictly forbidden during the war, upon pain of death, and our emperor having ordered that no vessel should leave port.

I communicated to his majesty a plan I had formed of seizing the enemy's whole fleet, which, as our scouts[1] assured us, lay at anchor in the harbour, ready to sail with the first fair wind. I consulted the most experienced seamen upon the depth of the channel, which they had often sounded, and they told me that in the middle, at high water, it was seventy *glumgluffs* deep, which is about six feet of European measure; and the rest of it fifty *glumgluffs* at most.

I walked towards the north-east coast, over against Blefuscu, where, lying down behind a hillock, I took out my small spy-glass and viewed the enemy's fleet at anchor, consisting of about fifty men-of-war and a great number of transports. I then came back to my house, and gave orders (for which I had leave from the king) for a great quantity of the strongest cable and bars of iron. The cable was about as thick as packthread, and the bars of the length and size of a knitting-needle. I trebled the cable to make it stronger, and for the same reason I twisted three of the iron bars together, bending the ends into a hook.

Having thus fixed fifty hooks to as many cables, I went back to the north-east coast, and, putting off my coat, shoes, and stockings, walked into the sea, in my leathern jacket, about half-an-hour before high water.

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I waded with what haste I could, and swam in the middle about thirty yards till I felt ground. I arrived at the fleet in less than half an hour. The enemy were so frightened when they saw me, that they leaped out of their ships and swam to shore, where there could not be fewer than thirty thousand souls. I then took my tackling, and, fastening a hook to the hole at the prow[1] of each vessel, I tied all the cords at the end.

While I was thus employed, the enemy discharged several thousand arrows, many of which stuck in my hands and face, and, besides the severe smarting, gave me much disturbance in my work. My greatest fear was for my eyes, which I should have certainly lost, if I had not suddenly thought of a plan. I kept, among other little necessaries, a pair of spectacles in a private pocket, which, as I before observed, had escaped the emperor's searchers.

These I took out and fastened as strongly as I could upon my nose, and, thus armed, went on boldly with my work, in spite of the enemy's arrows, many of which struck against the glasses of my spectacles, but without any bad effect. I had now fastened all the hooks, and, taking the knot in my hand, began to pull; but not a ship would stir, for they were all too fast held by their anchors, so that the boldest part of my plan remained.

I therefore let go the cord, and, leaving the hooks fixed to the ships, I resolutely cut with my knife the cables that fastened the anchors, receiving about two hundred arrows in my face and hands; then I took up

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the knotted end of the cables to which my hooks were tied, and with great ease drew fifty of the enemy's largest men-of-war after me.

The people of Blefuscu, who had not the least idea of what I intended, were at first greatly amazed. They had seen me cut the cables, and thought my design was only to let the ships run adrift, or fall foul[1] on each other; but when they saw the whole fleet moving in order, and saw me pulling at the end, they set up a terrible scream of grief and despair.

When I had got out of danger, I stopped awhile to pick out the arrows that stuck in my hands and face, and rubbed on some of the same ointment that was given me at my first arrival, as I have formerly mentioned. I then took off my spectacles, and, waiting about an hour till the tide was a little fallen, I waded through the middle with my cargo, and arrived safe at the royal port of Lilliput.

The emperor and his whole court stood on the shore, watching the end of this great adventure. They saw the ships move forward in a large half-moon, but could not see me, who was up to my breast in water. When I advanced to the middle of the channel, they were yet more in pain, because I was under water to my neck.

The emperor concluded me to be drowned, and that the enemy's fleet was approaching in a hostile manner. But he was soon eased of his fears, for, the channel growing shallower every step I made, I came in a short time within hearing, and, holding up the end of the

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cable by which the fleet was fastened, I cried in a loud voice,

"Long live the high and mighty King of Lilliput!"

This great prince received me at my landing with all possible praise, and created me a *nardac* upon the spot, which is the highest title of honour among them.

His majesty wished me to take some other opportunity of bringing all the rest of his enemy's ships into his ports. And so great is the ambition of princes, that he seemed to think of nothing less than reducing the whole empire of Blefuscu into a province, and governing it by a viceroy;[1] of destroying the Big-endian exiles, and compelling that people to break the smaller end of their eggs, by which he would remain the sole monarch of the whole world.

But I endeavoured, by many arguments, to turn him from this design, and I plainly told him that I would never be an instrument of bringing a free and brave people into slavery. When the matter was debated in council, the wisest part of the ministry was of my opinion.

This open, bold declaration of mine was so opposite to the schemes and desires of his imperial majesty that he could never forgive me. He mentioned it in a very artful manner at council, where I was told that some of the wisest appeared, at least by their silence, to be of my opinion; but others, who were my secret enemies, said certain unkind things about me. From this time there began a kind of plot between his majesty and a number of the ministers who were bent to do me harm,

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and, in less than two months, it had like to have ended in my utter destruction. Of so little weight are the greatest services to princes, when put into the balance with a refusal to gratify their passions.

CHAPTER XII.

THE PEOPLE OF LILLIPUT—THEIR LAWS AND CUSTOMS.

About three weeks after this deed, there arrived an embassy[1] from Blefuscu, with humble offers of a peace—which was soon concluded—upon conditions very advantageous to our emperor. There were six ambassadors, with a train of about five hundred persons. Their entry was very magnificent, and suitable to the greatness of their master and the importance of their business.

When the treaty was finished, the ambassadors paid me a visit. They began with many compliments upon my valour and generosity, invited me to their kingdom in the name of the emperor, their master, and desired me to show them some proofs of my very great strength, of which they had heard so many wonders. I readily obliged them, but shall not trouble the reader with the particulars.

When I had for some time pleased and satisfied these gentlemen, I desired they would do me the honour to present my humble respects to the emperor, their master, the renown of whose virtues had so justly filled the whole world with admiration. I resolved to go and see him, before I returned to my own country.

Accordingly, the next time I had the honour to see our emperor, I begged leave to go and see the

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monarch of Blefuscu. This he was pleased to grant me, as I could perceive, in a very cold[1] manner, but I could not guess the reason till I had a whisper from a certain person. I learnt that Flimnap and Bolgolam had represented my talk with the ambassadors as a mark of want of loyalty, from which I am sure my heart was wholly free. And this was the first time I began to have some imperfect idea of courts and ministers.

It is to be observed that these ambassadors spoke to me by an interpreter, the languages of both empires differing as much from each other as any two in Europe. Each nation also prides itself upon the age, beauty, and energy of its own tongue, and shows great contempt for that of its neighbour.

From the great trade and commerce between both realms, from the continual reception of exiles, which is common among them, and from the custom in each empire of sending their young nobility and richer gentry to the other, in order to polish themselves by seeing the world, and understanding men and manners, you would expect they would know each other's language well. But the truth must be told, that there are few persons of distinction, or merchants, or seamen, who can talk in both languages.

I found this out some weeks after, when I went to pay my respects to the emperor of Blefuscu. This visit, in the midst of great misfortunes through the malice of my enemies, proved a very happy adventure to me, as I shall relate in its proper place.

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Although I intended to leave the description of this empire to another book, yet, in the meantime, I am pleased to gratify the curious reader with some general ideas.

The common size of the natives is somewhat under six inches high, and there is an exact proportion in all other animals, as well as plants and trees. For instance, the tallest horses and oxen are between four and five inches in height, and the sheep, an inch and a half, more or less. Their geese are about the bigness of a sparrow; and so on through the several steps downwards till you come to the smallest, which, to my sight, was almost invisible, but nature has adapted the eyes of the Lilliputians to all objects proper for their view; they see with great clearness, but for no great distance.

To show the sharpness of their sight towards objects that are near, I have been much pleased with a cook pulling[1] a lark, which was not so large as a common fly; and a young girl threading an invisible needle with invisible silk, that is, invisible to me.

Their tallest trees are about seven feet high; I mean some of those in the great royal park, the tops of which I could but just reach with my fist clenched. The other vegetables are in the same proportion; but this I leave to the reader's imagination.

I shall say but little of their learning, which for many ages has flourished in all its branches among them; but their manner of writing is very peculiar, being neither from the left to the right, like the Europeans; nor from the right to the left, like the Arabians; nor

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from up to down, like the Chinese; but aslant, from one corner of the paper to the other, like ladies in England.

They look upon fraud as a greater crime than theft, and therefore seldom fail to punish it with death; for they declare that care and watchfulness, with ordinary common sense, may preserve a man's goods from thieves, but honesty has no protection against superior cunning. Since it is necessary that there should be buying and selling and dealing upon credit, where fraud is permitted or allowed to go unpunished, the honest dealer is always cheated, and the knave gets the advantage.

In choosing persons for all employments, they have more regard to good morals than to great abilities; for since government is necessary to mankind, they believe that Providence never intended to make the management of public affairs a something that could be understood only by a few specially clever persons, of which there seldom are three born in an age. They suppose truth, justice, temperance, and the like, to be in every man's power, the practice of which virtues, assisted by experience, and a good intention, would qualify any man for the service of his country, except where a course of study is required.

Ingratitude is among them a capital crime,[1] as we read it to have been in some other countries; for they reason thus: That whosoever makes ill returns to his benefactor, must needs be a common enemy to the rest of mankind, from whom he has received no special kindness, and therefore such a man is not fit to live.

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Here, it may perhaps, amuse the reader, to give some account of my servants, and my manner of living in this country during a residence of nine months and thirteen days. Being forced by necessity, I had made for myself a table and chair convenient enough, out of the largest trees in the royal park.

Two hundred seamstresses were employed to make me shirts and linen for my bed and table, all of the strongest and coarsest kind they could get, which, however, they were forced to quilt together in several folds, for the thickest was some degrees finer than lawn.[1] Their linen is usually three inches wide, and three feet make a piece.[2]

The seamstressses took my measure as I lay on the ground, one standing at my neck, and another at my mid-leg, with a strong cord extended, that each held by the end, while a third measured the cord with a rule an inch long. Then they measured my right thumb and desired no more; for by a calculation that twice round the thumb is once round the wrist, and so on to the neck and waist, and by the help of my old shirt, which I spread out on the ground before them for a pattern, they fitted me exactly. Three hundred tailors were employed in the same manner to make me clothes; but they had another contrivance to take my measure. I kneeled down, and they raised a ladder from the ground to my neck; upon this ladder one of them mounted, and let fall a plumb-line,[3] from my collar to the floor, which just answered the length of my coat; but my waist and arms I measured myself.

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When my clothes were finished, which was done in my house (for the largest of theirs would not have been able to hold them), they looked like the patchwork made

"One of them mounted, and let fall a plumb-line."—*Page* 52.

by the ladies in England, only that mine were all of a colour.

I had three hundred cooks to dress my victuals, in little convenient huts built about my house, where they

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and their families lived, and prepared me two dishes apiece. I took up twenty waiters in my hand and placed them on the table; a hundred more attended below on the ground, some with dishes of meat, and some with barrels of wine and other liquors slung on their shoulders, all which the first waiters drew up, as I wanted, in a very ingenious manner, by certain cords, as we draw a bucket up from a well in Europe.

A dish of their meat was a good mouthful, and a barrel of their liquor a reasonable draught. Their mutton is not as good as ours, but their beef is excellent. I have had a sirloin[1] so large that I have been forced to make three bites of it; but this is rare. My servants were astonished to see me eat it, bone and all, as in our country we do the leg of a lark. Their geese and turkeys I usually ate at a mouthful, and I found them better than ours. Of their smaller fowl, I could take up twenty or thirty at the end of my knife.

One day his imperial majesty, being informed of my way of living, desired that himself and his royal consort, with the young princes and princesses, might have the happiness, as he was pleased to call it, of dining with me. They came accordingly, and I placed them in chairs of state, upon my table, just in front of me, with guards about them. Flimnap, the lord high-treasurer, attended there likewise, with his white staff, and I observed he often looked on me with a sour countenance. I did not seem to notice it, but ate more than usual, in honour to my dear country, as well as to fill the court with admiration.

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I have some private reasons to believe that this visit from his majesty gave Flimnap an opportunity of speaking against me to his master. He had always been my secret enemy, though he was outwardly kind to me, more than was to be expected from his usual bad temper.

He mentioned to the emperor 'the low condition of his treasury[1]'; that I had cost his majesty above a million and a half of *sprugs* (their greatest gold coin, about the bigness of a spangle[2]); and, upon the whole, that it would be advisable in the emperor to take the first chance he had of sending me away.

CHAPTER XIII.

HE IS IN DANGER OF LOSING HIS EYESIGHT.

Before I give an account of my leaving this kingdom, it may be proper to inform the reader of a plot which had been for two months forming against me.

I had been, hitherto, all my life, a stranger to courts. I had, indeed, heard and read enough of the manners and ways of great princes and ministers, but I never expected to have found such terrible effects of them in so distant a country, and in one governed, as I thought, by very different rules from those in Europe.

When I was preparing to pay my visit to the Emperor of Blefuscu, a person at court of importance (to whom I had been able to do a good turn at a time when he lay under the highest displeasure of his imperial majesty) came to my house very privately at night, and, without sending in his name, desired admittance. I put his lordship into my coat pocket; and, giving orders to

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a trusty servant not to admit anyone else, I fastened the door of my house, placed his lordship on the table, and sat down by it. After the common greetings were over, observing his lordship looked full of trouble, and inquiring into the reason, he desired I would hear him with patience, in a matter that highly concerned my honour and my life. His speech was to the following effect, for I took notes of it as soon as he left me.

"You are to know," said he, "that several committees of council have been lately called, in the most private manner, on your account; and it is but two days since his majesty came to a full resolution.

"You know that Skyresh Bolgolam (*Galbet*, or High Admiral) has been your mortal enemy almost ever since your arrival. His original reasons I know not; but his hatred is increased since your great success against Blefuscu, by which his glory as admiral is much dimmed. This lord, together with Flimnap, the High Treasurer, whose enmity against you is well known, the General, the Chamberlain, and the Lord Chief Justice, have charged you with treason,[1] and other capital crimes."

These words made me so impatient, knowing, as I did, my own merits and innocence, that I was going to interrupt him, when he begged me to be silent, and thus continued:—

"Out of gratitude for the favours you have done me, I got information of the whole proceedings, and a copy of the charges, by which I run great risks of losing my head for your service."

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ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT[1]
AGAINST QUINBUS FLESTRIN, THE MAN-MOUNTAIN.

"ARTICLE I.—*That the said Quinbus Flestrin, having brought the imperial fleet of Blefuscu into the royal port, and being afterwards commanded by his imperial majesty to seize all the other ships of the said empire of Blefuscu, and reduce that empire to a province, to be governed by a viceroy from hence, and to destroy and put to death not only all the Big-endian exiles, but likewise all the people of that empire who would not immediately forsake the Big-endian heresy;*[2] *he, the said Flestrin, like a false traitor against his imperial majesty, did petition to be excused from the said service, upon the pretence of being unwilling to force the consciences, or destroy the liberties and lives, of an innocent people.*

"ARTICLE II.—*That whereas certain ambassadors arrived from the court of Blefuscu, to sue for peace in his majesty's court, he, the said Flestrin, did, like a false traitor, aid, abet,*[3] *comfort, and divert the said ambassadors, although he knew them to be servants of a prince who was lately an open enemy to his imperial majesty, and in an open war against his said majesty.*

"ARTICLE III.—*That the said Quinbus Flestrin, contrary to the duty of a faithful subject, is now preparing to make a voyage to the court and empire of Blefuscu, for which he has received only verbal licence*[4] *from his imperial majesty, and, under colour of the said licence, does falsely and traitorously intend to take the said voyage, and thereby to aid, comfort, and abet the emperor of Blefuscu, so lately an enemy, and in open war with his imperial majesty aforesaid.*"

"There are some other articles; but these are the most important.

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"In the several debates upon this impeachment, it must be confessed that his majesty gave many marks of his great good feeling for you, often mentioning the services you had done him.

"The Treasurer and Admiral insisted that you should be put to the most painful and shameful death, by setting fire to your house at night; and the General was to attend with twenty thousand men, armed with poisoned arrows, to shoot you on the face and hands. Some of your servants were to have private orders to strew a poisonous juice on your shirts and sheets, which would soon make you tear your own flesh, and die in the greatest torture. The General came to the same opinion, so that for a long time the greater part of the council were against you; but his majesty resolving, if possible, to spare your life, at last got the chamberlain on his side.

"Upon this incident, Reldresal, Chief Secretary for Private Affairs, who has always showed himself your true friend, was commanded by the emperor to say what he thought about you. This he accordingly did, and so justified the good thoughts you have of him. He said your crimes were great, but that still there was room for mercy, which was the greatest virtue in a prince, and for which his majesty was so justly celebrated.

"He also said that the friendship between you and him was so well known to the world, that perhaps the council might think him partial;[1] however, in obedience to the command he had received, he would freely say what he thought. That if his majesty, in consideration of your services, and of his own merciful feelings, would

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please spare your life, and only give orders to put out both your eyes, he humbly thought that, by this plan, justice might in some measure be satisfied, and all the world would praise the kindness of the emperor, as well as the fair and generous treatment of those who have the honour to be his counsellors.

"He said that the loss of your eyes would be no hindrance to your bodily strength, by which you might still be useful to his majesty; for blindness is an addition to courage, by concealing dangers from us. The fear you had for your eyes was the greatest difficulty in bringing over the enemy's fleet, and it would be sufficient for you to see by the eyes of the ministers, since the greatest princes do no more.

"This proposal was received with the utmost dislike by the whole council. Bolgolam, the Admiral, could not keep his temper; but, rising up in fury, said he wondered how the Secretary durst presume to desire the preserving of the life of a traitor. The services you had performed only made your crimes the worse; and the same strength which enabled you to bring over the enemy's fleet, might serve, upon the first discontent, to carry it back. But he had good reasons to think you were a Big-endian in your heart; and, as treason begins in the heart before it appears in outward acts, so he accused you as a traitor on that account, and therefore insisted you should be put to death.

"The Treasurer was of the same opinion. He showed how his majesty's revenue was reduced by the charge of maintaining you, which would soon grow insupport-

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able; that the Secretary's plan of putting out your eyes was so far from being a remedy against this evil, that it would probably increase it; that his majesty and the council, who are your judges, were, in their own consciences, fully convinced of your guilt, which was a sufficient reason to condemn you to death.

"But his imperial majesty, fully determined against capital punishment, was graciously pleased to say, that since the council thought the loss of your eyes too light a punishment, some other might be added afterwards.

"Your friend, the Secretary, humbly begged to be heard again, in answer to what the Treasurer had objected, about the great charge his majesty was at in maintaining you; he said that his excellency, who had the sole disposal of the emperor's revenue, might easily provide against that evil, by gradually lessening your supply of food, so that, by this means, you will grow weak and faint, lose your appetite, and die in a few months. The stench of your carcase would not then be so dangerous, when it should become more than half diminished. Immediately upon your death, five or six thousand of his majesty's subjects might, in two or three days, cut your flesh from your bones, take it away by cart loads, and bury it in distant parts, to prevent infection, leaving the skeleton as a monument of admiration to posterity.

"Thus, by the great friendship of the Secretary, the whole affair was settled. It was strictly ordered that the plan of starving you by degrees should be kept a secret; but the sentence of putting out your eyes was entered

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on the books, none dissenting, except Bolgolam, the Admiral.

"In three days your friend the Secretary will be ordered to come to your house, and read before you the articles of impeachment, and then to tell you of the great kindness and favour of his majesty and council, whereby you are only condemned to the loss of your eyes, which his majesty does not doubt you will gratefully and humbly submit to; and twenty of his majesty's surgeons will attend, in order to see the operation well performed, by discharging very sharp pointed arrows into the balls of your eyes, as you lie on the ground.

"I leave you to decide what you will do; and, to avoid suspicion, I must return at once, in as private a manner as I came."

His lordship did so, and I remained alone, under many doubts and troubled as to what was the best thing for me to do.

At last I decided. I had his imperial majesty's leave to pay my visit to the Emperor of Blefuscu. So I took the opportunity, before three days had passed, to send a letter to my friend the Secretary, telling him of my resolution to set out that morning for Blefuscu. Without waiting for an answer, I went at once to that side of the island where our fleet lay.

I seized a large man-of-war, tied a cable to the prow, and, lifting up the anchors, I stripped myself, put my clothes (together with my coverlet, which I carried under my arm) into the vessel, and, drawing it after me, between wading and swimming arrived at the royal

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port of Blefuscu, where the people had long expected me.

They lent me two guides to direct me to the capital city, which is of the same name. I held them in my hands till I came within two hundred yards of the gate, and desired them to signify my arrival to one of the Secretaries, and let him know I there waited his majesty's commands.

I had an answer in about an hour, that his majesty, attended by the royal family, and great officers of the court, was coming out to receive me.

I advanced a hundred yards; the emperor and his train alighted from their horses, and the empress and ladies from their coaches, and I did not perceive they were in any fright on my account. I lay on the ground to kiss the hands of his majesty and the empress.

I told his majesty that I was come according to my promise, and with the leave of the emperor my master, to have the honour of seeing so mighty a monarch, and to offer him any service in my power, not contrary with my duty to my own prince. I did not mention a word of my disgrace, because I had had no regular[1] information of it, and might suppose myself wholly ignorant of it.

I shall not trouble the reader with the account of my reception at this court, which was suitable to the goodness of heart of so great a prince; nor of the difficulties I was in for want of a house and bed, being forced to lie on the ground wrapped up in my coverlet.

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CHAPTER XIV.

BY A LUCKY ACCIDENT HE ESCAPES.

Three days after my arrival, walking out of curiosity to the north-east coast of the island, I noticed, about half a league off in the sea, something that looked like a boat overturned. I pulled off my shoes and stockings, and, wading two or three hundred yards, I found the object to approach nearer, by force of the tide; and then plainly saw it to be a real boat, which I supposed might, by some tempest, have been driven from a ship.

I returned immediately to the city, and desired his imperial majesty to lend me twenty of the tallest vessels he had left, after the loss of his fleet, and three thousand seamen, under the command of his Vice-admiral.

This fleet sailed round, while I went back the shortest way to the coast, where I first discovered the boat. I found the tide had driven it still nearer. The seamen were all provided with cordage, which I had beforehand twisted together to a sufficient strength.

When the ships came up, I stripped myself, and waded till I came within a hundred yards of the boat, after which I was forced to swim till I got up to it.

The seamen threw me the ends of the cords, which I fastened to a hole in the fore part of the boat, and they held the other ends. The wind being favourable, they towed, and I shoved, until we arrived within forty yards of the shore. Then waiting till the tide was out, I got dry to the boat, and by the assistance of two

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thousand men with ropes and pulleys, I managed to turn it on its bottom, and found it was but little damaged.

I told the emperor that my good fortune had thrown this boat in my way, to carry me to some place whence I might return to my native country. I begged his majesty to give orders for getting materials to fit it up, and also to give me leave to depart; which, after some kind words, he was pleased to grant.

I did very much wonder, all this time, not to have heard of any message relating to me from our emperor to the court of Blefuscu.

But I was afterwards told that his imperial majesty believed I was only gone to Blefuscu in performance of my promise, according to the leave he had given me, which was well known at our court, and that I would return in a few days. But at last he was pained at my long absence; and, after consulting with the Treasurer and the rest of that set, a person of quality was sent with the copy of the articles against me.

This envoy[1] had instructions to tell the monarch of Blefuscu of the great mercy shown by his master to me; that he would punish me no further than with the loss of my eyes; that I had fled from justice; and if I did not return in two hours, I should be deprived of my title of *nardac*, and declared a traitor.

The envoy farther added that, in order to maintain the peace and goodwill between both empires, his master expected that his brother[2] of Blefuscu would give orders to have me sent back to Lilliput, bound hand and foot, to be punished as a traitor.

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The Emperor of Blefuscu, having taken three days to consult, return this answer. He said that, as for sending me bound, his brother knew it was impossible; that although I had deprived him of his fleet, yet he owed great obligations to me for many good offices I had done him in making the peace. That, however, both their majesties would soon be made easy; for I had found a very large vessel on the shore, able to carry me on the sea, which he had given orders to fit up; and he hoped, in a few weeks, both empires would be freed from so terrible a burden as I was.

With this answer the envoy returned to Lilliput, and the monarch of Blefuscu told to me all that had passed. He offered me at the same time his protection, if I would continue in his service; but, although, I believed him sincere, yet I resolved never more to put any confidence in princes or ministers, where I could possibly avoid it. Therefore, with all due thanks for his kind intentions, I humbly begged to be excused.

I told him also, that since fortune, whether good or evil, had thrown a vessel in my way, I was resolved to venture myself on the ocean, rather than be a cause of difference between two such mighty monarchs. Neither did I find the emperor at all displeased; in fact, I discovered that he was very glad of my resolution, and so were most of his ministers.

These thoughts moved me to hasten my departure somewhat sooner than I intended; to which the court, impatient to have me gone, very readily contributed. Five hundred workmen were employed to make two sails

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to my boat, according to my directions, by quilting thirteen folds of their strongest linen together.

I was at the pains of making ropes and cables, by twisting ten, twenty, or thirty of the thickest and strongest of theirs. A great stone that I happened to find, after a long search, by the sea-shore, served me for an anchor.

I had the tallow of three hundred cows, for greasing my boat,[1] and other uses. I was at immense pains in cutting down some of the largest timber trees for oars and masts, in which I was much assisted by his majesty's ship-carpenters, who helped me in smoothing them, after I had done the rough work.

In about a month, when all was prepared, I sent to receive his majesty's commands, and to take my leave. The emperor and royal family came out of the palace; I lay down on my face to kiss his hand, which he very graciously gave me; so did the empress and the young princes of the blood.

His majesty presented me with fifty purses of two hundred *sprugs* apiece, together with his picture at full length, which I put immediately into one of my gloves, to keep it from being hurt.

I stored the boat with carcases of a hundred oxen and three hundred sheep, with bread and drink in suitable quantities, and as much meat, ready cooked, as four hundred cooks could provide. I took with me six cows and two bulls alive, with as many ewes and rams, intending to carry them into my own country. To feed them on board, I had a good bundle of hay, and

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a bag of corn. I would gladly have taken a dozen of the natives with me, but this was a thing which the emperor would not permit; and, besides a diligent search into my pockets, his majesty made me promise, on my honour, not to carry away any of his subjects, even with their own consent and desire.

Having thus prepared all things as well as I was able, I set sail on the twenty-fourth day of September, 1701, at six in the morning.

CHAPTER XV.

HE ARRIVES AT HOME.

When I had gone about four leagues to the northward, the wind being at south-east, at six in the evening, I noticed a small island, about half a league to the north-west. I advanced forward, and cast anchor on the lee side[1] of the island, which seemed to be uninhabited. I then took some refreshment and lay down to rest. I slept well for about six hours, for I found the day broke in two hours after I awoke.

It was a clear night. I ate my breakfast before the sun was up; and, heaving anchor, the wind being favourable, I steered the same course that I had done the day before, guided by my pocket-compass.

My intention was to reach, if possible, one of those islands which I had reason to believe lay to the north-east of Van Diemen's Land. I discovered nothing all that day; but upon the next, about three in the afternoon, when I had, by my calculation, made twenty-four

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leagues from Blefuscu, I saw in the distance a ship steering to the south-east; my course was due east.

I hailed her, but could get no answer; I gained upon her, for the wind slackened. I made all the sail I could, and in half an hour she spied me, then hung out her ancient,[1] and discharged a gun. It is not easy to express the joy I was in, at this unexpected hope of once more seeing my beloved country, and the dear wife and children I had left in it.

The ship slackened her sails, and I came up with her between five and six in the evening, September twenty-sixth. My heart leaped within me to see her English colours. I put my cows and sheep into my coat-pockets, and got on board with all my little cargo of provisions.

The vessel was an English merchantman, returning from Japan by the North and South Seas,[2] the captain, Mr. John Biddel, of Deptford,[3] a very civil man and an excellent sailor.

We were now in the latitude of 30 degrees south: there were about 50 men in the ship; and among them I met an old comrade of mine, one Peter Williams, who gave me a good character to the captain. This gentleman treated me with kindness, and desired I would let him know what place I came from last, and whither I was bound.

This I did in a few words, but he thought I was raving, and that the dangers I had undergone had disturbed my head; whereupon I took my black cattle and sheep out of my pocket, which, after great astonishment, clearly convinced him of the truth of what I had said.

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I then showed him the gold given me by the emperor of Blefuscu, together with his majesty's picture at full length, and some other rarities of that country. I gave him two purses of two hundred *sprugs* each, and promised, when we arrived in England, to make him a present of a cow and a sheep.

I shall not trouble the reader with a full account of this voyage, which was very prosperous for the most part. We arrived in the Downs[1] on the 13th of April, 1702. I had only one misfortune, that the rats carried away one of my sheep; I found her bones in a hole, picked clean from the flesh.

The rest of my cattle I got safe on shore, and set them grazing on a bowling-green at Greenwich, where the fineness of the grass made them feed very heartily, though I had always feared the contrary. I could not possibly have kept them in so long a voyage, if the captain had not allowed me some of his best biscuit, which, rubbed to powder, and mingled with water, was their constant food.

The short time I continued in England, I made considerable profit by showing my cattle to many noblemen and others; and, before I began my second voyage, I sold them for six hundred pounds. Since my last return, I find the breed is considerably increased, especially the sheep, which I hope will prove much to the advantage of the woollen manufacture, by the fineness of their fleeces.

I stayed but two months with my wife and family, for my great desire of seeing foreign countries would

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not let me remain longer. I therefore took leave of them with tears on both sides, and went on board the *Adventure*, a merchant ship of three hundred tons, bound for Surat,[1] Captain John Nicholas, Liverpool, commander. But my account of this voyage must be told in the Second Part of my Travels.

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS INTO BROBDINGNAG.

CHAPTER XVI.

GULLIVER LANDS IN BROBDINGNAG AND MEETS SOME OF THE INHABITANTS.

I took ship in the Downs, on the 20th day of June, 1702, and for nearly a year we had a very prosperous voyage.

On the 16th day of June, 1703, a boy on the top-mast discovered land. On the 17th, we came in full view of a great island, or continent (for we knew not which); on the south side whereof was a creek too shallow to hold a ship of above one hundred tons.[2]

We cast anchor within a league of this creek, and our captain sent a dozen of his men, well armed, in the long-boat,[3] with vessels for water, if any could be found. I desired his leave to go with them, that I might see the country, and make what discoveries I could. After wandering about for some time, I began to be weary, so I returned gently towards the creek; and, the sea being full in my view, I saw our men had already got into the boat, and were rowing for life to the ship.

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I was going to holloa after them, when I observed a huge creature walking towards them in the sea, as fast as he could. He waded not much deeper than his knees, and took immense strides; but our men had the start of him half a league, and, the sea being full of sharp-pointed rocks, the monster was not able to overtake the boat.

I ran as fast as I could and climbed up a steep hill, which gave me a good view of the country. I found it fully cultivated; but what greatly surprised me was the length of the grass, which was about twenty feet high.

I reached a highroad, for so I took it to be, though it served to the inhabitants only as a footpath through a field of barley. Here I walked on for some time, but could see little on either side, it being now near harvest, and the corn rising at least forty feet high.

There was a stile to pass from this field into the next. It had four steps, and a stone to cross over when you came to the uppermost. It was impossible for me to climb this stile, because every step was six feet high, and the upper stone about twenty. I was endeavouring to find some gap in the hedge, when I discovered one of the inhabitants in the next field, advancing towards the stile. He was of the same size as he whom I saw in the sea pursuing our boat.

He appeared as tall as an ordinary church spire, and took about ten yards at every stride, as near as I could guess. I was struck with fear and astonishment, and ran to hide myself in the corn, whence I saw him looking back into the next field on the right hand, and heard him call in a very loud voice.

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Upon this, seven monsters, like himself, came towards him, with reaping-hooks in their hands, each hook about the largeness of six scythes. He spoke some words to them, and they went to reap the corn in the field where I lay.

I kept at as great a distance from them as I could, and went forward, till I came to a part of the field where the corn had been laid by the rain and wind. Here it was impossible for me to advance a step; for the stalks were so interwoven, that I could not creep through, and the beards[1] of the fallen ears so strong and pointed, that they pierced through my clothes into my flesh.

One of the reapers, approaching within ten yards of where I lay, made me fear that, with the next step, I should be squashed to death under his foot, or cut in two with his reaping-hook. So when he was again about to move, I screamed aloud in fear, whereupon the huge creature trod short, and, looking round about him for some time, at last espied me as I lay on the ground.

He considered awhile, and at length ventured to take me behind, by the middle, between his forefinger and thumb, and brought me within three yards of his eyes, that he might behold my shape more perfectly. I guessed his meaning, and I resolved not to struggle in the least, as he held me in the air about sixty feet from the ground.

All I ventured to do was to raise my eyes toward the sun, and place my hands together in a supplicating posture,[2] and to speak some words in a humble tone.

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He appeared pleased with my voice and gestures, and began to look upon me as a curiosity, much wondering to hear me speak, although he could not understand what I said.

Lifting up the lappet[1] of his coat, he put me gently into it, and immediately ran along with me to his master, who was a farmer, and the same person I had first seen in the field.

The farmer, having (as I supposed by their talk) received such an account of me as his servant could give him, blew my hair aside to take a better view of my face. He called his hands about him, and asked them, as I afterwards learned, whether they had ever seen in the fields any little creature that resembled me.

He then placed me softly on the ground on all fours, but I immediately got up, and walked slowly backward and forward to let those people see I did not intend to run away. I pulled off my hat, and made a low bow towards the farmer. I fell on my knees, and lifted up my hands and eyes, and spoke several words as loud as I could. I took a purse of gold out of my pocket and humbly presented it to him.

He received it on the palm of his hand, and then applied it close to his eye to see what it was, and afterwards turned it several times with the point of a pin (which he took out of his sleeve), but could make nothing of it. He made me a sign to put the purse again into my pocket, which, after offering it to him several times, I thought it best to do.

The farmer, by this time, was convinced I must be a rational creature.[2] He spoke often to me, but the

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sound of his voice pierced my ears like that of a water-mill. I answered as loud as I could in several languages, and he often laid his ear within two yards of me, but all in vain; we could not understand each other.

He then sent his servants to their work, and carried me home to his house. There he called his wife, and showed me to her; but she screamed and ran back, as women in England do at the sight of a toad or a spider. However, when she had seen my behaviour awhile, she soon made friends with me, and by degrees grew extremely kind and gentle with me.

It was about twelve at noon, and a servant brought in dinner. It consisted only of one substantial dish of meat (fit for the plain condition of a farmer), in a dish of about four-and-twenty feet diameter. The company were the farmer, his wife, and three children.

When they were sat down, the farmer placed me at some distance from him on the table, which was thirty feet high from the floor. I was in a terrible fright, and kept as far as I could from the edge, for fear of falling. The wife minced a bit of meat, then crumbled some bread on a trencher, and placed it before me. I made her a low bow, took out my knife and fork, and began to eat, which gave them exceeding delight.

When dinner was almost done, the nurse came in with a child of a year old in her arms, who immediately spied me, and began to squall to get me for a plaything.

The mother took me up, and put me towards the child, who seized me by the middle, and got my head into his mouth. I roared so loud that the urchin was

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frightened, and let me drop, and I should certainly have broken my neck, if the mother had not held her apron under me.

My mistress had a daughter nine years old, a clever child for her age, very dexterous at her needle, and skilful in dressing her doll. Her mother and she contrived to fit up the doll's cradle for me against night, and this was my bed all the time I stayed with these people.

This young girl was so handy that she made me seven shirts, and some other linen, of as fine cloth as could be got, which indeed was coarser than sackcloth; and these she herself constantly washed for me.

She was likewise my schoolmistress, to teach me the language. When I pointed to anything, she told me the name of it in her own tongue, so that, in a few days, I was able to call for whatever I had a mind to.

She was very good-natured, and not above forty feet high, being little for her age. She gave me the name of *Grildrig*, which the family took up, and afterwards the whole kingdom. The word imports what the English call *mannikin*.[1] I called her my *Glumdalclitch*, or "little nurse."

It now began to be known and talked of in the neighbourhood, that my master had found a strange animal in the field, shaped in every part exactly like a human creature, which it also imitated in all its actions, seemed to speak in a little language of its own, had already learned several words of theirs, went erect upon two legs, was tame and gentle, would come when it was called, and do whatever it was bid.

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A friend of my master advised him to show me as a sight upon a market-day in the next town, which was half an hour's riding, about two and twenty miles from our house. Glumdalclitch, my little nurse, told me the whole matter, which she had learnt from her mother.

The poor girl laid me on her bosom, and fell a-weeping with shame and grief. She feared some mischief would happen to me from rude, vulgar folks, who might squeeze me to death, or break one of my limbs by taking me in their hands. She said her papa and mamma had promised her that Gildrig should be hers; but now she found they meant to serve her as they did last year, when they pretended to give her a lamb, and yet, as soon as it was fat, sold it to a butcher.

My master, acting on the advice of his friend, carried me in a box the next market-day to the neighbouring town, and took along with him his little daughter, my nurse, upon a pillion[1] behind him. The box was closed on every side, with a little door for me to go in and out, and a few gimlet-holes to let in air. The girl had been careful to put the quilt of her doll's bed into it, for me to lie down on.

However, I was terribly shaken in this journey, though it were but of half an hour; for the horse went about forty feet at every step, and trotted so high that the agitation was equal to the rising and falling of a ship in a great storm, but much more frequent. Our journey was somewhat farther than from London to St. Albans.[2]

My master alighted at an inn which he used to frequent; and, after making some necessary preparations,

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he hired the *grultrud*, or crier, to give notice through the town of a strange creature to be seen at the sign of the "Golden Eagle," not six feet long, and in every part resembling a human creature, that could speak several words, and perform a hundred amusing tricks.

I was placed upon a table in the largest room of the inn, which might be near three hundred feet square. My little nurse stood on a low stool close to the table to take care of me, and direct what I should do. My master, to avoid a crowd, would suffer only thirty people at a time to see me. I walked about on the table as the girl commanded; she asked me questions, and I answered them as loud as I could.

I turned about several times to the company, and used such speeches as I had been taught. I took up a thimble filled with liquor, which Glumdalclitch had given me for a cup, and drank their health. I drew out my hanger,[1] and flourished with it after the manner of fencers in England.

I was that day shown to twelve sets of company, for those who had seen me made such wonderful reports that the people were ready to break down the doors to come in. My master, for his own interest, would not suffer anyone to touch me except my nurse; and, to prevent danger, benches were set round the table, at such a distance as to put me out of everybody's reach.

My master, seeing how profitable I was likely to be, resolved to carry me to the most important cities of the kingdom. Having therefore provided himself with all things necessary for a long journey, we set out for the

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metropolis, situated near the middle of that empire, and about three thousand miles' distance from our house.

He made Glumdalclitch ride behind him. She carried me on her lap, in a box tied about her waist. The girl had lined it on all sides with the softest cloth she could get, well quilted[1] underneath, furnished it with the doll's bed, provided me with linen, and made everything as comfortable for me as she could.

My master's design was to show me in all the towns by the way, and to step out of the road, for fifty or a hundred miles, to any village or gentleman's house, where he might expect custom. We made easy journeys of not above eight score miles a day, for Glumdalclitch, on purpose to spare me, complained she was tired with the trotting of the horse. She often took me out of the box, at my own desire, to give me air, and show me the country, but always held me fast by a leading-string. We were ten weeks on our journey, and I was shown in eighteen large towns, besides many villages and private families.

On the 26th day of October, we arrived at the metropolis, called in their language *Lorbrulgrud*, or "Pride of the Universe." My master hired a large room, between three and four hundred feet wide. He provided a table sixty feet in diameter, upon which I was to act my part, and railed it round three feet from the edge, and as many high, to prevent my falling over. I was shown ten times a day, to the wonder and satisfaction of all the people.

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CHAPTER XVII.

HE GOES TO LIVE AT COURT.

The frequent labours I underwent every day made, in a few weeks, a very great change in my health; the more my master made by me, the more he wished to get. I had quite lost my stoutness, and was reduced almost to a skeleton. The farmer observed it, and, concluding I must soon die, resolved to make as much out of me as he could.

While he was thus reasoning with himself, a gentleman came from the court, and commanded my master to carry me thither immediately for the amusement of the queen and her ladies. Some of the latter had already been to see me, and reported strange things of my beauty, behaviour, and good sense.

Her majesty, and those who attended her, were delighted beyond measure with my demeanour. She asked me some questions about my country and my travels, which I answered as distinctly, and in as few words as I could. She asked whether I would be content to live at court, and I replied that nothing would be more pleasing to me, if my master would permit it.

She then asked him if he was willing to sell me at a good price. He, who thought I could not live a month, was ready enough to part with me, and demanded a thousand pieces of gold, which were ordered to be paid to him on the spot.

I then begged of the queen that Glumdalclitch, who had always attended me with so much care and

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kindness, might be admitted into her service, and continue to be my nurse and instructor. Her majesty agreed to this, and easily got the farmer's consent, and the poor girl herself was not able to hide her joy.

The queen took me in her own hand, and carried me to the king, who was then retired to his private room. She set me gently on my feet upon the writing-table, and commanded me to give his majesty an account of myself, which I did in a very few words.

The king, although he is as learned a person as any in his dominions, yet when he observed my shape and saw me walk erect, before I began to speak, believed I must be a piece of clockwork.[1] But when he heard my voice, and found what I spoke to be regular[2] and sensible, he could not conceal his astonishment.

The queen commanded her own cabinet-maker to contrive a box, that might serve me as a bed-chamber. This man was most ingenious, and, according to my directions, in three weeks finished for me a wooden chamber of sixteen feet square, and twelve high, with sash windows, a door, and two closets, like a London bed-chamber. The board that made the ceiling, was to be lifted up by two hinges, to put in a bed ready furnished by her majesty's upholsterer, which Glumdalclitch took out every day to air, and, letting it down at night, locked up the roof over me.

A workman, who was famous for making little curiosities, undertook to make me two chairs, with backs and frames, of a substance not unlike ivory, and two tables, with a cabinet[3] to put my things in. The room

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was quilted on all sides, as well as the floor and the ceiling, to prevent any accident from the carelessness of those who carried me, and to break the force of a jolt, when I went in a coach. The queen likewise ordered the thinnest silks that could be got, to make me clothes; these were somewhat thicker than an English blanket, and very cumbersome till I was accustomed to them.

The queen became so fond of my company, that she could not dine without me. I had a table placed upon the same at which her majesty ate, just at her elbow, and a chair to sit on. Glumdalclitch stood on a stool on the floor near my table, to assist and take care of me.

I had an entire set of silver dishes and plates, and other necessaries, which, in proportion to those of the queen, were not much bigger than what I have seen in a London toy-shop, for the furniture of a doll's house; these my little nurse kept in her pocket in a silver box, and gave them to me at meals as I wanted them, always cleaning them herself.

Her majesty used to put a bit of meat upon one of my dishes, out of which I carved for myself, for the queen took up at one mouthful as much as a dozen English farmers could eat at a meal. She would crunch the wing of a lark, bones and all, between her teeth, although it was nine times as large as that of a full-grown turkey; and put a bit of bread in her mouth as big as two twelvepenny loaves.[1] She drank, out of a golden cup, above a hogshead[2] at a draught. Her knives were twice as long as a scythe, set straight upon a

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handle. The spoons, forks, and other instruments were all in the same proportion.

The king took a pleasure in conversing with me, inquiring into the manners, religion, laws, government, and learning of Europe, wherein I gave him the best account I was able.

I should have lived happy enough in the country, if my littleness had not exposed me to several ridiculous and troublesome accidents.

On one occasion, my little nurse, believing she had put me in a secure place, and having left my box at home, to avoid the trouble of carrying it, went to another part of the garden with her governess and some ladies of her acquaintance.

While she was absent, and out of hearing, a small white spaniel that belonged to one of the chief gardeners, having got by accident into the garden, happened to come near the place where I lay. The dog, following the scent, came directly up, and, taking me in his mouth, ran straight to his master, wagging his tail, and set me gently on the ground. By good fortune, he had been so well taught that I was carried between his teeth without the least hurt, or even tearing my clothes.

Once a kite,[1] hovering over the garden, made a swoop at me, and if I had not resolutely drawn my hanger, and run under a thick espalier,[2] he would have certainly carried me away in his talons.

Another time, I broke my right shin against the shell of a snail, which I happened to stumble over, as I was walking along and thinking of poor England.

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The queen, who often used to hear me talk of my sea voyages, and took all occasions to amuse me when I was sad, asked me whether I understood how to handle a sail or an oar, and whether a little exercise at rowing might not be good for my health. I answered that I understood both very well; for although my proper employment had been to be surgeon or doctor to the ship, yet often, upon a pinch, I was forced to work like a common mariner.

But I did not see how this could be done in their country, where the smallest wherry[1] was equal to a first-rate man-of-war among us; and such a boat as I could manage would never live in one of their rivers.

Her majesty said that if I would contrive a boat, her own joiner should make it, and she would procure a place for me to sail in. The fellow was a skilful workman, and, by my instructions, in ten days finished a pleasure-boat, with all the tackling,[2] and able to hold eight Europeans.

When it was finished, the queen ordered the joiner to make a wooden trough of three hundred feet long, fifty broad, and eight deep, which, being well pitched to prevent leaking, was placed on the floor along the wall, in an outer room of the palace. It had a plug near the bottom to let out the water when it grew stale, and two servants could easily fill it in half an hour.

Here I often used to row for my own pleasure, as well as for that of the queen and her ladies, who thought themselves well entertained with my skill and agility. Sometimes I would put up my sail, and then

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my business was only to steer, while the ladies gave me a gale with their fans; and when they were weary, some of their pages would blow my sail forward with their breath, while I showed my art by steering starboard or larboard[1] as I pleased. When I had done, Glumdalclitch always carried back my boat into her closet, and hung it on a nail to dry.

Perhaps the greatest danger I underwent in that kingdom was from a monkey which belonged to one of the clerks of the kitchen.[2]

Glumdalclitch had locked me in her closet, while she went somewhere upon business, or on a visit. The weather being very warm, the closet window was left open, as well as the windows and door of my box. As I sat quietly at my table, I heard something bounce in at the closet-window, and skip about from one side to the other; at which, although I was much alarmed, yet I ventured to look out, but not stirring from my seat; and then I saw this frolicsome animal frisking and leaping up and down, till at last he came to my box, which he seemed to view with great pleasure and curiosity, peeping in at the door and at every window.

After some time spent in peeping, grinning, and chattering, he at last espied me; and, reaching one of his paws in at the door, as a cat does when she plays with a mouse, although I often shifted place to avoid him, he at length seized the lappet of my coat, and dragged me out. He took me up in his right fore-foot; and when I offered to struggle, he squeezed me so hard, that I thought it more prudent to submit.

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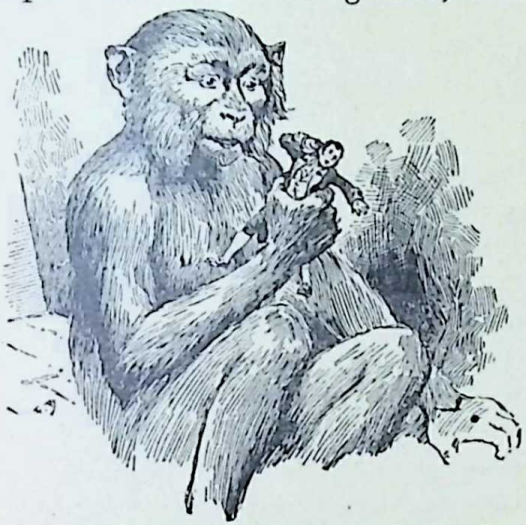
I have good reason to believe that he took me for a young one of his own species, by his often stroking my face very gently with his other paw. In this he was interrupted by a noise at the closet door, as if somebody were opening it; whereupon he suddenly leaped up to the window, at which he had come in, and thence upon the leads[1] and gutters, walking upon three legs, and holding me in the fourth, till he clambered up to a roof that was next to ours.



"He took me in his right fore-foot."—*Page* 84.

I heard Glumdalclitch give a shriek at the moment he was carrying me out. The poor girl was almost distracted. That quarter of the palace was all in an uproar; the servants ran for ladders; the monkey was seen by hundreds in the court, sitting upon the ridge of the building, and holding me like a baby in one of his fore-paws.

Some of the people threw up stones, hoping to drive the monkey down; but this was strictly forbidden, or else, very probably, my brains had been dashed out. The ladders were now applied, and mounted by several men. This the monkey observed, and, finding himself

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almost surrounded, and not being able to make speed enough with his three legs, let me drop on a ridge-tile,[1] and made his escape.

Here I sat for some time, five hundred yards from the ground, expecting every moment to be blown down by the wind, or to fall by my own giddiness, and come tumbling over and over from the ridge to the eaves. But an honest lad, one of my nurse's footmen, climbed up, and, putting me into his breeches pocket, brought me down safe.

I was so weak and bruised in the sides, with the squeezes given me by this odious animal, that I was forced to keep my bed a fortnight. The king, queen, and all the court sent every day to inquire after my health, and her majesty paid me several visits during my sickness. The monkey was killed, and an order made that no such animal should, in future, be kept about the palace.

CHAPTER XVIII.

HE REGAINS HIS FREEDOM AND RETURNS HOME.

I had always a strong feeling that I should some time recover my liberty. But my deliverance came sooner than I expected, and in a not very common manner.

I had now been two years in the country; and, about the beginning of the third, Glumdalclitch and I attended the king and queen in a progress[2] to the south coast of the kingdom. I was carried, as usual, in my travelling box, and I had ordered a hammock to be fixed

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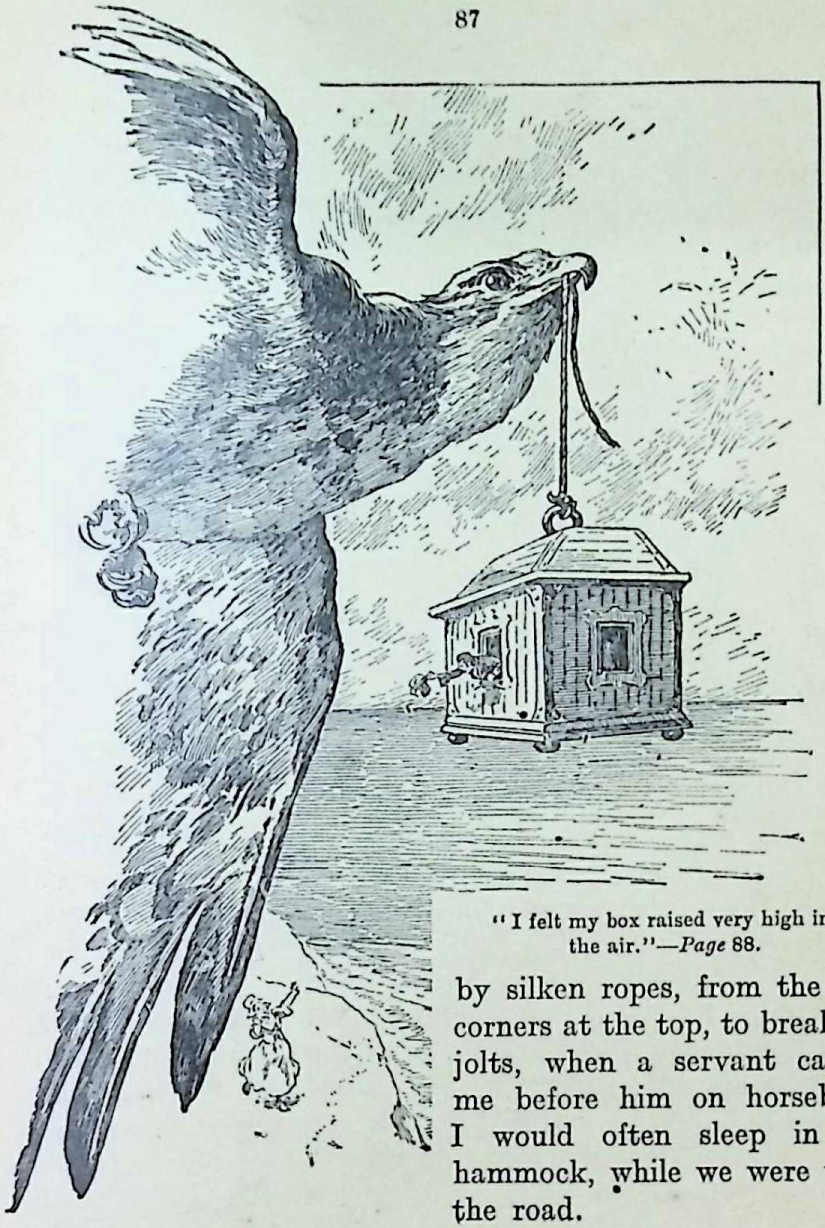

"I felt my box raised very high in the air."—*Page* 88.

by silken ropes, from the four corners at the top, to break the jolts, when a servant carried me before him on horseback. I would often sleep in my hammock, while we were upon the road.

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When we came to our journey's end, Glumdalclitch and I were very much fatigued; I had got a small cold, but the poor girl was so ill as to be confined to her chamber. I longed to see the ocean, which must be the only scene of my escape, if it should ever happen, so I pretended to be worse than I really was, and desired leave to take the fresh air of the sea with a page, whom I was very fond of, and who had sometimes been trusted with me.

The boy took me out in my box, about half an hour's walk from the palace, towards the rocks on the sea-shore. I ordered him to set me down, and, lifting up one of my sashes, cast many a wistful look towards the sea. I was not very well, and told the page that I would take a nap in my hammock, which I hoped would do me good. I got in, and the boy shut the window close down to keep out the cold. I soon fell asleep, and all I can conjecture is that, while I slept, the page, thinking no danger could happen, went among the rocks to look for birds' eggs.

Be that as it will, I found myself suddenly awakened with a violent pull upon the ring, which was fastened at the top of my box for the convenience of carriage. I felt my box raised very high in the air, and then borne forward with very great speed. The first jolt nearly shook me out of my hammock; but afterwards the motion was easy enough.

I called out several times as loud as I could raise my voice, but all to no purpose. I looked towards my window, and could see nothing but the clouds and sky.

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I heard a noise over my head like the clapping of wings, and then began to perceive the woful condition I was in; that some eagle had got the ring of my box in his beak, with an intent to let it fall on the rock, like a tortoise in a shell, and then pick out my body and devour it.

In a little time the noise and flutter of wings increased very fast, and my box was tossed up and down like a sign on a windy day. I heard several bangs or buffets, as I thought, given to the eagle, and then, all on a sudden, felt myself falling perpendicularly down, for above a minute, but with such swiftness that I almost lost my breath.

My fall was stopped by a terrible splash, that sounded louder to my ears than the cataract of Niagara; after which I was quite in the dark for another minute, and then my box began to rise so high that I could see light from the tops of the windows.

I now perceived I was fallen into the sea. My box, by the weight of my body, the goods that were in it, and the broad plates of iron fixed for strength at the four corners of the top and bottom, floated about five feet deep in water.

I did then, and do now, suppose that the eagle which flew away with my box was pursued by two or three others, and forced to let me drop, while he defended himself against the rest, who hoped to share in the prey.

The plates of iron fastened at the bottom of the box preserved the balance while it fell, and hindered it from being broken on the surface of the water. Every joint of the box was well grooved; and the door did not

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move on hinges, but up and down like a sash, and this kept my closet so tight that very little water came in.

There were two strong staples fixed upon that side of my box which had no window, and into which the servant who used to carry me on horseback, would put a leather belt, and buckle it about his waist.

After many hours, I heard, or at least thought I heard, some grating noise on that side of my box where the staples were fixed; and soon after I began to fancy that the box was pulled or towed along the sea; for I now and then felt a sort of tugging, which made the waves rise near the tops of my windows, leaving me almost in the dark. In the space of about an hour, that side of the box where the staples were, and which had no windows, struck against something that was hard.

I apprehended it to be a rock, and found myself tossed more than ever. I plainly heard a noise upon the cover of my closet, like that of a cable, and the grating of it as it passed through the ring. I then found myself hoisted up, by degrees, at least three feet higher than I was before. I heard a trampling over my head, and somebody calling through the hole with a loud voice, in the English tongue, "If there be anybody below, let them speak."

I answered that I was an Englishman, and begged, by all that was moving, to be delivered out of the dungeon I was in. The voice replied that I was safe, for my box was fastened to their ship, and the carpenter should immediately come and saw a hole in the cover large enough to pull me out.

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I said that was needless, and would take up too much time; for there was no more to be done but to let one of the crew put his finger into the ring, and take the box out of the sea into the ship, and so into the captain's cabin.

Some of them, upon hearing me talk so wildly, thought I was mad; others laughed; for indeed it never came into my head that I had now got among people of my own stature and strength. The carpenter came, and in a few minutes sawed a passage about four feet square, then let down a small ladder, upon which I mounted, and thence was taken into the ship in a very weak condition.

The sailors were all in amazement, and asked me a thousand questions. But the captain, Mr. Thomas Wilcox, an honest, worthy Shropshire man, observing I was ready to faint, took me into his cabin, gave me a cordial[1] to comfort me, and made me turn in upon his own bed, advising me to take a little rest, of which I had great need.

When I awoke, I begged him to hear me tell my story, which I faithfully did, from the last time I left England to the moment he first discovered me. And, as truth always forces its way, so this honest, worthy gentleman, who had some amount of learning, and very good sense, was immediately convinced of my honesty and truthfulness.

But, farther to confirm all I had said, I entreated him to give orders that my cabinet be brought, of which I had the key in my pocket. I opened it in his own presence, and showed him the small collection of rarities

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I had made in the country from which I had been so strangely delivered.

There was a comb I had contrived out of the stumps of the king's beard, and another of the same materials, but fixed into a paring of her majesty's thumb-nail, which served for the back.

There was a collection of needles and pins, from a foot to half a yard long; four wasps' stings like joiners' tacks; a gold ring which one day the queen had made me a present of, in a most obliging manner, taking it from her little finger, and throwing it over my head like a collar. I desired the captain would please to accept this ring in return for his civilities, which he absolutely refused.

Lastly, I showed him the breeches I had then on, which were made of a mouse's skin.

I could force nothing on him but a footman's tooth, which I observed him to examine with great curiosity, and found he had a fancy for it. He received it with abundance of thanks, more than such a trifle could deserve.

It was drawn by an unskilful surgeon, in a mistake, from one of Glumdalclitch's men, who was afflicted with toothache, but it was as sound as any in his head. I got it cleaned, and put it into my cabinet. It was about a foot long, and four inches in diameter.

The captain was very well satisfied with this plain relation I had given him, and said he hoped, when we returned to England, I would oblige the world by putting it on paper, and making it public.

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Our voyage home was very prosperous, but I shall not trouble the reader with a journal[1] of it. The captain called in at one or two ports for provisions and fresh water, but I never went out of the ship till we came into the Downs, which was on the third day of June, 1706, about nine months after my escape. Here the captain and I took a kind leave of each other, and in a few days I had the extreme joy of being united to my wife and children at my house in Redriff.[2]

NOTES.

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5. 1. **Emmanuel College,** a college founded by Sir Walter Mildmay, in 1584.

2. **Leyden,** in Holland, with a famous university where medical and other students are educated.

3. **Levant,** the eastern part of the Mediterranean.

6. 1. **South Sea,** the South Pacific Ocean.

2. **Van Diemen's Land,** so called from the name of its discoverer; now Tasmania.

3. **Cable's length.** A cable's length is 120 fathoms, *i.e.*, 720 feet, or about one-seventh of a mile.

7. 1. **Gone,** exhausted with fatigue.

8. 1. **Hekinah, &c.** Nonsense words made up by Swift, to seem like a foreign language.

9. 1. **Jerkin,** a kind of short jacket made of buff-coloured leather.

11. 1. **Dressed,** cooked, and prepared for the table.

2. **Burgundy.** Burgundy is a district in the north-east of France noted for wine.

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13. 1. **Express,** a messenger sent with all speed.

2. **Machine,** a carriage or kind of waggon.

14. 1. **Patron,** one who protects, favours, and encourages.

2. **Packthread,** a very thick and strong kind of thread or twine used for sewing up parcels.

3. **Girt,** tied (round).

17. 1. **Sedan chair,** a covered chair for one person, usually carried on two poles, passed through rings in the sides, by two bearers. They were in general use during the 17th and 18th centuries, and got their name from Sedan, in France, where they were invented in the 16th century.

18. 1. **Austrian lip,** thick lip.

2. **Prime,** early manhood.

3. **High Dutch,** German.

4. **Low Dutch,** Dutch as spoken in Holland.

5. **Lingua Franca,** a mixed language or jargon (chiefly Italian, with many

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Arabic, Turkish, and Greek words), used largely by sailors and merchants, and those they come in contact with, on the Mediterranean coasts, especially towards the east.

19. 1. **Pikes,** lances.

20. 1. **Tolerable enough,** fairly comfortable.

2. **Great quality,** high rank.

21. 1. **Imperial commission,** an order by the emperor.

2. **Board-wages,** wages allowed to servants to keep themselves in food.

23. 1. **Fob,** a small pocket in the waistband of the breeches, chiefly used for keeping the watch in, or money, or small articles. Fobs are not much used now.

2. **Imprimis,** a Latin word meaning 'in the first place'; or 'first in order.'

3. **Coarse cloth,** his handkerchief.

4. **Silver chest,** a silver snuff-box.

5. **Thin substances,** leaves of his pocket-book.

24. 1. **Pillar of iron,** a pistol.

2. **Red metal,** copper money.

25. 1. **Oracle,** that which gives guidance to be relied upon.

26. 1. **Balls,** bullets.

2. **Black grains,** gunpowder.

27. 1. **Yeomen of the guard.** The Yeomen of the Guard form, in England, part of the Sovereign's body-guard, and have done so since 1485, on the accession of Henry VII. They are frequently called Beefeaters.

29. 1. **Trencher,** a large wooden dish.

34. 1. **Colossus,** a bronze statue of the Sun-god, 105 feet high, said to have stood across the entrance to the harbour of Rhodes, chief city of an island of the same name, off the coast of Asia Minor.

2. **In close order,** arranged in ranks, about four inches between man and man; about forty between rank and rank.

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34. 3. **Advanced,** to the front.

35. 1. **Cabinet,** the meeting of the chief officers of the government.

2. **Council,** the Privy Council, as it is called in England. It consists of a large number of noblemen and others, selected by the king, to advise him when necessary.

36. 1. **Articles,** separate clauses.

2. **Licence,** leave.

41. 1. **Constitution,** the laws and customs by which a country is governed.

42. 1. **Lost his life,** was executed.

2. **Lost his crown,** was deposed.

44. 1. **Scouts,** spies.

45. 1. **Prow,** the bow, or front part of a ship.

46. 1. **Fall foul,** float against and so damage each other.

47. 1. **Viceroy,** one who rules in place of the sovereign.

48. 1. **Embassy,** persons sent by a sovereign to act on his behalf; in this case to make a treaty of peace.

49. 1. **Cold,** distant, ungracious, unfriendly.

50. 1. **Pulling,** pulling off the feathers to prepare for cooking.

51. 1. **Capital crime,** a crime punished with death.

52. 1. **Lawn,** a fine kind of muslin.

2. **Piece,** a length of cloth, etc., as usually sold by the manufacturer.

3. **Plumb-line,** a string with a small weight of lead tied to the end, used by workmen to test whether things are vertical.

54. 1. **Sirloin,** the thick, upper part of a loin of beef.

55. 1. **Treasury,** that department of the government which has charge of the money affairs of a nation.

2. **Spangle,** a small, round piece of metal sewn on dresses, coats, etc., as an ornament (often called 'sequins' now,

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though these are frequently larger than the old-fashioned spangle).

56. 1. **Treason,** plotting against the government of a country.

57. 1. **Articles of Impeachment,** a writing accusing a person of certain crimes.

2. **Heresy,** an opinion opposed to the generally received opinion.

3. **Abet,** assist and encourage.

4. **Verbal licence,** leave given by word of mouth.

58. 1. **Partial,** inclined to favour.

62. 1. **Regular,** proper and direct.

64. 1. **Envoy,** messenger.

2. **Brother,** a title given by one sovereign to another by way of compliment.

66. 1. **Greasing my boat.** Grease was put on the outside of a boat to keep out the water and prevent the wood rotting. Tar is frequently used now.

67. 1. **Lee side,** the side sheltered from the wind.

68. 1. **Ancient,** a long, narrow flag used for making signals.

2. **North and South Seas,** North and South Pacific.

3. **Deptford,** a port on the Thames near Greenwich. Now a part of London.

69. 1. **Downs,** a roadstead between the coast of Kent and the Goodwin Sands.

70. 1. **Surat,** an important port of India, about 150 miles north of Bombay.

2. **Hundred tons.** At this time a ship carrying 100 tons would be considered fairly large.

3. **Long-boat,** the largest boat carried by a ship.

72. 1. **Beards,** the bristly growth on the ears of barley, etc.

2. **Supplicating posture,** in the position of one who is begging and praying.

73. 1. **Lappet,** flap, skirt.

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73. 2. **Rational creature,** a living being having reason like men.

75. 1. **Mannikin,** little man.

76. 1. **Pillion,** a cushion placed behind a man's saddle for a woman to ride on.

2. **St. Albans,** a town in Hertfordshire, about 20 miles north of London.

77. 1. **Hanger,** a short sword.

78. 1. **Quilted,** padded.

80. 1. **Clockwork.** At this time figures of men made to move by clockwork were very common.

2. **Regular,** in right order and reasonable.

3. **Cabinet,** cupboard.

81. 1. **Twelvepenny loaf,** a very large loaf of household bread.

2. **Hogshead,** a very large cask.

82. 1. **Kite,** a bird of prey. The common European kite is two feet long.

2. **Espalier,** a kind of wooden frame upon which fruit trees are trained.

83. 1. **Wherry,** a long, light rowing-boat with seats for passengers.

2. **Tackling,** masts, sails, rigging, etc.

84. 1. **Starboard or larboard.** *Starboard* is the right-hand side, and *larboard* the left-hand side of a vessel, when you are looking towards the bow. *Port* is always used now instead of *larboard.*

2. **Clerks of the kitchen,** servants whose duty it is to keep an account of all food, etc., sent into the kitchen.

85. 1. **Leads,** parts of the roof covered with lead.

86. 1. **Ridge-tile,** a tile across the ridge of a roof.

2. **Progress,** journey.

91. 1. **Cordial,** a drink made from sweetened spirits, etc.

93. 1. **Journal,** an account written down, day by day, in a diary.

2. **Redriff,** a part of London, in Surrey, now called Rotherhithe.

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NOTE BY THE EDITOR OF THE SERIES.

JONATHAN SWIFT (usually spoken of as Dean Swift), was born in Dublin in 1667, and died there in 1745. He was made Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin, in 1713.

Swift was a noted politician and author, and all his writings are full of wit and satire, whilst, as a political writer, he has no equal. He was a proud and ambitious man, who never forgot an insult nor forgave an injury. His friends almost worshipped him, whilst his enemies, of whom he had many, feared and hated him with an intense hatred.

The best known of Swift's numerous writings are *The Battle of the Books*, in which he compares, with much wit, the merits of ancient and modern books; *A Tale of a Tub*, an attack on the many absurdities and abuses which had sprung up in the name of religion; and *Travels into Several remote Nations of the World by Lemuel Gulliver* (published in 1726), a satire full of caustic wit and bitterness, on political and social affairs at home and abroad.

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